

# The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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An Independent Christian Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Modernism, Worldliness and Formalism.

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## Unconverted Because You Will Not Come?

By Evangelist John R. Rice

"Ye will not come to me, that ye might have life."—John 5:40.

The fact that sinners do not come to Jesus is sad, but far worse is the sad fact taught in the Saviour's words in John 5:40. The tragedy is not that people DO not come. It is not that they CANNOT come. It is not that they do not KNOW HOW to come. No, it is that they WILL NOT come. A wealth of sadness is in these words, "Ye will not come to me, that ye might have life."

What is it that stands between a sinner and salvation? What is it that stands between the sinner and peace, forgiveness, a new heart, everlasting life and Heaven itself? It is simply his own wicked, stubborn will.

Someone has said, "The one thing you own is your will." Some dictator might be able to make you do what you did not want to do. By torture, such as communists use in Russia and the gestapo used in Nazi Germany, you might be compelled to tell secrets you never intended to repeat, or to betray friends and loved ones whom you had vowed to protect forever. People might seize your property, might take away your liberty. They might put out your eyes, or amputate your limbs, or take away life itself. But no human power, no government, can control your will. You can still want what you want.

Persecution might make you betray your country but could not make you hate your country. Persecution could make you say,

"Heil, Hitler!" but could not make you love Hitler. Circumstances might make you eat black-bread and cabbage soup, but they could not make you quit preferring sirloin steak and strawberry shortcake. That realm of the soul where a man says, "Yes," or "No"; "I love," or "I hate"; where he says, "I will," or "I will not"—that is the last fortress of a man's soul.

And with all the reverence of my soul I say that a holy God will not batter down the door of the will and save a man who does not want to be saved, who will not come to Christ.

Why do not people come to Christ? They do not want to come! Why do sinners not repent? They do not want to repent! Why do sinners not trust Christ for salvation? They do not want to trust Him!

These words of Jesus "Ye will not come to me, that ye might have life," tell what is wrong with every atheist, every agnostic, every infidel. The trouble is not that they CANNOT believe, but that they WILL NOT believe. The trouble is not with the intellect but with the heart, the will.

### Moody's Meeting With Atheists In London

This truth was wonderfully illustrated with a great meeting which D. L. Moody and Sankey had in East London in 1883 or (Continued on page 9)

## HAIRS COUNTED AND GOD'S LOVING CARE

By Charles H. Spurgeon, London, 1834-1892

"But the very hairs of your head are all numbered."—Matthew 10:30.

During this week my mind has been much directed to the subject of Providence, and you will not wonder when I relate a portion of one day's story.

I was engaged to preach last Wednesday at Halifax, where



Charles H. Spurgeon

there was a heavy snow storm. Preparations had been made for a congregation of eight thousand persons, and a huge wooden structure had been erected. I considered that owing to the severe weather, few persons could possibly assemble, and I looked forward to the dreary task of addressing an insignificant handful of people in a vast place.

However, when I arrived, I found from five to six thousand people gathered together to hear the Word; and a more substantial looking place it has not been my lot to see. It certainly was a huge, uncomely building, but, nevertheless, it seemed well adapted to answer the purpose. We met together in the afternoon and worshiped God, and again in the evening, and we separated to our homes, or rather, we were about to separate, and all this while the kind providence of God was watching over us. Immediately in front of me there was a huge gallery, which looked an exceedingly massive structure, capable of holding two thousand persons. This, in the afternoon, was crowded, and it seemed to stand as firm as a rock. Again in the evening there it stood, and neither moved nor shook.

But mark the provident hand of God; in the evening, when the people were about to retire, and when there was scarcely more than a hundred persons there, a

huge beam gave way, and down came a portion of the flooring of the gallery with a fearful crash. Several persons were precipitated with the planks, but still the good hand of God watched over us, and only two persons were severely injured with broken legs, which it is trusted will be reset safely. Now, had this happened any earlier, not only must many more have been injured, but there are a thousand chances to one, as we say, that a panic must necessarily have ensued similar to that which we still remember, and deplore as having occurred in this place.

Had such a thing occurred, and had I been the unhappy preacher on the occasion, I feel certain that I should never have been able to occupy the pulpit again. Such was the effect of the first calamity, that I marvel that I ever survived. No human tongue can possibly tell what I experienced. The Lord, however, graciously preserved us; the fewness of the people in the gallery prevented any such catastrophe, and thus a most fearful accident was averted.

But we have a more marvelous providence still to record. Overloaded by the immense weight of snow which fell upon it, and beaten by a heavy wind, the entire building fell with an enormous crash three hours after we had left it, splitting the huge timbers into shivers, and rendering very much of the material utterly useless for any future building. Now mark this:—had the snow begun three hours earlier, the building must have fallen upon us, and how few of us would have escaped we cannot guess.

But mark another thing: all day long it thawed so fast, that the snow as it fell seemed to leave a mass, not of white snow, but of snow and water together. This ran through the roof upon us, to our considerable annoyance, and I was almost ready to complain that we had hard dealing from God's providence. But if it had been a frost instead of a thaw, you can perceive that the place must have fallen several hours beforehand, and then your minister, and the greater part of his congregation (Continued on page 5)

## Minding My Own Business

By Evangelist Lester Roloff

Post Office Box 1177, Corpus Christi, Texas

"For we have found this man a pestilent fellow, and a mover of sedition among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes."—Acts 24:5.

"And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel?"—1 Kings 18:17.

Read how Amos seemed to meddle with other people's business.

"Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, Amos hath conspired against thee in the midst of the house of Israel: the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos saith, Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel shall surely be led away captive out of their own land. Also Amaziah said unto Amos, O thou seer, go, flee thee away into the

land of Judah, and there eat bread, and prophesy there: But prophesy not again any more at Bethel: for it is the king's chapel, and it is the king's court. Then answered Amos, and said to Amaziah, I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son; but I was an herdsman, and a gatherer of sycamore fruit: And the Lord took me as I followed the flock, and the Lord said unto me, Go, prophesy unto my people Israel. Now therefore hear thou the word of the Lord: Thou sayest, Prophesy not against Israel, and drop not thy word against the house of Isaac. Therefore thus saith the Lord; Thy wife shall be an harlot in the city, and thy sons and thy daughters shall fall by the sword, and thy land shall be divided by line; and thou shalt die in a polluted land: and Israel shall surely go into captivity forth of his land."—Amos 7:10-17.

It was said of Paul and his helpers, "These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also" (Acts 17:6).

In a distant city a few weeks ago, I was asked to go talk to a lady concerning sin in her life and how it was affecting another home. It was nearly midnight when I rang the doorbell and the lights were off, but in a little while the lady came to the door.

I asked her if I could have an audience with her and she asked me what I wanted to talk with her about, to which I said, "Your life."

And she said, "It's none of your business." But after a little reasoning, she opened the door and said, "Come on in and sit down, but I wish people would mind their own business."

I said, "That is exactly what I am doing here in your home tonight."

At least a thousand times in the twenty-eight years I have been preaching, people have said to me, "Keep your nose out of my business"; "Mind your own business"; or "It is none of your business."

God's business has never been a popular business, but it is a very necessary business. Truth and the man who preaches it always runs at least fifty years ahead of the reception committee and of its acceptance.

### False Ideas About a Preacher's Business

I would like to give you some false notions that people have and the world has about the preacher's business. In the first place, the world says that it is the preacher's business to marry people and yet it seems that one of the main businesses of the preacher now is to refuse to marry. So many people are not qualified to be married according to the Word of God. Personally, I would not attempt to marry an unbeliever to a Christian. They could not be

(Continued on page 11)

## Red Churchmen

The Deadly Parallel Between Some Objectives of the National Council of Churches and the Criminal Conspiracy of the Communist Party USA

By Rev. Archer Weniger, D.D.  
May 20, 1961

Dr. J. B. Matthews, writing in the American Mercury, November 1953, stated, "Anybody who is even moderately well informed on the subject of the communist conspiracy knows that the largest single group supporting the communist apparatus today is composed of Protestant clergymen." Compilations of the public records of pro-communist involvements of more than 7,000 Protestant ministers are now available to the public in book form, mostly from the Circuit Riders, Inc. (110 Government Place, Cincinnati 2, Ohio). Anyone who denies Red influence among the clergy is either ignorant, deceitful, or insane.

Left wing author Ralph L. Roy estimates that Communist Party members among the clergy do not exceed 200. This is probably too high. Close to 10,000 ministers, however, are being used wittingly or unwittingly by the communist apparatus. Most of these ministers are in the National Council of Churches. J. Edgar Hoover stated, "I confess to a real apprehension so long as communists are able to secure ministers of

the gospel to do their evil work." Herbert Philbrick has said, "We are losing the fight for freedom—there are more names of ministers" (Continued on page 9)



Evangelist L. L. Roloff



Dr. G. Archer Weniger





It is Tuesday afternoon, July 18, and I am at home in the office at Wheaton. Yesterday morning I flew back from Atlanta. The jet flight was an hour and thirty minutes. I had been away from home for most of seven weeks, having only been home a part of one day in six weeks and three days. And you can imagine that a great many things await my attention. Four book manuscripts are ready for publication. I made two radio broadcasts this morning on tape in the radio studio. There are letters to answer, promotion to prepare for great conferences coming up soon, many decisions to make. And I am glad to be home for all of this week, God willing.

### Winston-Salem, Georgia Camp Meeting, and Atlanta

On Saturday night and Sunday, July 8 and 9, I preached at the Urban Street Baptist Church, closing a conference with many speakers and good crowds. Then Monday morning, July 10, I flew to Atlanta. Rev. Norman Pyle met me and took me out to Camp Cameron, twenty miles southeast of Atlanta on the Presbyterian camp ground. There I usually spoke four times a day. Besides those on the grounds, people drove in, particularly from Atlanta every day. And we had real blessing. That camp meeting was sponsored by the two Pyle brothers, Norman and Howard, pastors respectively of the Bible Baptist Church and the Faith Baptist Church in the greater Atlanta area.

On Saturday I spoke on Youth for Christ broadcast, then made a broadcast for Brother Norman Pyle. Then at 12:30 noon I met with the Atlanta Christian Business Men's Committee, spoke to forty men with real blessing. Saturday night I spoke for Atlanta Youth for Christ. The auditorium in Art Building was jammed, chairs were in the aisles, we had a wonderful hearing and a number of young people saved. Sunday morning I preached at the Faith Baptist Church, and on Sunday night at the Bible Baptist Church. Then I flew home Monday morning.

I was greatly pleased at the reception accorded this unworthy preacher in the Atlanta area. What a multitude of friends! We got about a hundred subscriptions.



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Christian workers took quotas and promised to send some two hundred more subscriptions. There is widespread interest in the work of THE SWORD OF THE LORD, and I have an urgent invitation to return to Atlanta for a major Sword of the Lord Conference on Revival and Soul Winning this fall, God willing.

### About One Hundred Deaf Young People Saved Last Week at the Bill Rice Ranch

Last week and this week, July 9-23, were reserved for deaf young people in the tremendous work at Cumberwood Christian Retreat on the Bill Rice Ranch, nine miles west of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. I have just talked to Dr. Bill by telephone and he tells me that they have several hundred deaf young people on the grounds. There were 98 professions of faith last week, and a number more this week. The deaf young people were most carefully dealt with by trained workers who speak the sign language used by deaf people. Last week there were deaf people from eighteen states. Many came as individuals. Other groups were sent by churches in many states. I believe there is not another work in the whole world like this, where there is genuine, evangelical Bible teaching and preaching and soul winning among deaf people, where they come from so many states and where so many are soundly converted.

These deaf young people come without any payment for board or room. The expense of feeding them, housing them, teaching them, the upkeep of the staff, the lights, the water, is tremendous, running, I believe, more than \$400 a day. Surely some readers will want to help Dr. Bill Rice, Bill Rice Ranch, Franklin Road, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, in his tremendous soul-saving work among the deaf.

Only ten rooms of the eighteen in the new motel building were finished. Others will be finished before the Sword Family Conference August 21-27. Next year we must have another big motel building with eighteen more rooms. There are twenty-six cabin rooms, twelve honeymoon hotel rooms, twelve motel rooms in the first motel building, there will be eighteen when the roof is finished on the new motel building. Dr. Bill tells me that some of the deaf people this last week had to sleep in a tent, in the homes of the workers and staff, etc.

Pray for this good work. Those who are interested should send \$1.00 for a year's subscription to *The Branding Iron*, the little monthly publication filled with news of the camp, with western-flavored little sermons and heart-warming features. Address Dr. Bill Rice, Bill Rice Ranch, Franklin Road, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

lin Road, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

### New Book on Soul Winning Ready Soon!

Ten years ago I started a series of articles on soul winning, intended as chapters in a book. With many burdens, I laid the matter aside and all these years I have taken them out from time to time and prayed over them. This summer I had a great urge and moving of the Spirit that impelled me to finish this book on soul winning. So in the midst of heavy duties during the last six weeks, I have written eleven more strong chapters on soul winning. The book of fifteen chapters is now completed, all but the Introduction and index and will go, God willing, to the printer this week for typesetting and we hope it will be ready in two months or so. It will be a big book of nearly three hundred pages and we confidently expect it to be greatly used of God to make genuine soul winners out of thousands of people.

### We Must Leave Off Radio Stations Which Are Not Supported

The "Voice of Revival" radio broadcast continually is used of God for great blessing. How we thank God for the letters that come in from far and near! Summer is a testing time. In the nature of the case that is always true in radio. It is vacation time, the radio signal does not reach as far, more people are out of their homes riding around or sight-seeing. But out of forty-two stations, we now feel that three are not nearly paying their way and they must be dropped unless the hearers of those stations come to our rescue with the heavy radio bills involved. We have no money, no resources from which we can pay the radio bills except the offerings of God's people. If you can hear us on any radio station, then I beg you, help us support the "Voice of Revival" broadcast, and make it possible for us to stay on the air. We are partners in this blessed business of getting out the Gospel, and we give as well as preach, but we cannot reach the millions of people with the Gospel as they should be reached except as God's people join with us to pay for radio time, to pray down the power of God, to help us get listeners.

### Atlanta People Now Hear the "Voice of Revival" on WAVO, 1420 on Your Dial, At 1:30 P.M. Each Sunday

We have long wanted to reach the million people in the greater Atlanta area with the "Voice of Revival" radio broadcast. I was so impressed with the many, many friends who came to hear me last week and who were concerned about THE SWORD OF THE LORD that I felt led to sign a contract for a weekly broadcast for the year on WAVO. That station may be found at 1420 on your dial. It can be heard in all the greater Atlanta area. The time is 1:30 p. m. each Sunday. The broadcast begins the first Sunday in August, so you in the Atlanta area be sure to listen in. And the hundreds of dollars involved will be taken care of as God's people join us in prayer and giving. If people do not help us, we cannot stir the hearts of Christians, we cannot save young people from worldliness and modernism, we cannot warn people of cults and wickedness, and we cannot win souls on the radio. But with God's help and the people's help combined, as Jesus commanded when He gave the Great Commission, we can bless thousands.

Atlanta, listen to "Voice of Revival," 1:30 p. m. Sunday afternoon.

### John A. Broadus

A beautiful story is told of Dr. Broadus, the American scholar, seminary president and homiletic professor. In his younger days, in the town in which he lived, he was converted to Christ. He had been attending some meetings, and next day he went to one of his schoolmates, Sandy Jones, a

## INCIDENTS

and  
Illustrations

By  
Evangelist Robert L. Sumner  
Contributing Editor

### The Myth of St. Philomena

A few months ago an article appeared in this column stating that St. Christopher, a patron saint of the Roman Catholic Church, never existed. We said he was a myth and, therefore, millions of devout Catholics were saying prayers to a non-existent personality. In the light of some of the letters we received, you would have thought that we had inferred God no longer existed.

*I wonder what the same critics will say after they have read this article!*

In 1837, Pope Gregory XVI canonized a young 12 or 13-year-old virgin girl who was thought to have died a martyr's death. Her name was Philomena. Since her official elevation she has been venerated by devout Roman Catholics throughout the world as St. Philomena, "The Wonder Worker." Hundreds of miracles have been attributed to her. The blind said she gave them sight, the deaf said she brought them hearing again, the incurably ill and the crippled praised her intercession with God. According to legend, she was the daughter of a king of a Grecian state and had been martyred because she refused to marry Emperor Diocletian.

*But what are the facts?*

About the same time that the defenders of St. Christopher were writing me with accusations that my remarks had bordered on blasphemy, the Roman Catholic Church was formally announcing that St. Philomena's name was being stricken from the Roman Catholic calendar BECAUSE THERE IS NOT A SHRED OF PROOF SHE EVER EXISTED! The Roman authorities admitted that there is no trace of any girl named Philomena living in Rome, no record of her family and no proof that she ever existed.

What is the significance of this official Roman pronouncement? It means that all of the churches throughout the world named in honor of St. Philomena will have to be "reconsecrated" in another "saint's" name. It means that "Philomena" can no longer be used in Catholic baptisms. It means that millions of people have innocently played the fool in saying prayers to someone who did not exist.

*Thus another Roman myth has been exploded!*

Oh, when will people realize that the Bible is true and that God said what He meant and meant what He said in I Timothy 2:5: "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."

The plain, simple truth of the matter is that one who is not a Christian cannot come to God through any means whatsoever until he is "willing to receive Christ as his personal Saviour. It also means that one who is a child of God does not need the help of Mary, Joseph, Christopher, Philomena, Thomas, Jude, Augustine, Joan of Arc or anybody else. THEY HAVE A RIGHT TO GO DIRECTLY TO GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST.

They not only have that right,

they are invited to do so with the words: "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Heb. 4:16).

### Grade School "Suckers"

A survey was made of 150 eighth graders in a school of Marin County—across the bridge from San Francisco—relative to their smoking habits. It was learned that, on the average, 8½ of every 10 students were cigarette smokers. Not only so, but nearly 3 out of 10 (27.5 per cent) were already "two package a day" addicts. These shocking figures have caused the Marin County Medical Society and the local branch of the American Cancer Society to join forces in launching an educational campaign showing the evils of Lady Nicotine.

Perhaps they need to teach these "babes in the woods" the little ditty our grandparents taught their children:

Tobacco is a filthy weed,  
It was the Devil who sowed the seed;  
It dulls the senses, stunts the clothes,  
And makes a chimney out of your nose.

Both cheerfulness and grumbling are contagious. It's up to you what kind of an epidemic you start.

### Bankrupt Boulevard

Judd Arnett, who writes a most interesting and amusing column for the *Detroit Free Press*, invited his readers some weeks back to "take a stroll along Bankrupt Boulevard" with him. He then produced some very enlightening figures which he had gotten from the eleventh edition of "Facts and Figures on Government Finance," published by Tax Foundation, Inc. Wrote Mr. Arnett:

"A few facts and figures, U. S. department by department, are offered herewith:

"In 1949, Agriculture spent \$2,750,000,000. The 1961 budget calls for \$6,119,000,000.

"Defense: (henceforth, all figures compare 1949 with 1961)—\$11,864,000,000 against \$43,250,000,000.

"Health, Education and Welfare: \$1,313,000,000 against \$3,758,000,000.

"Interior: \$485,000,000 against \$800,000,000.

"Justice: \$126,000,000 against \$285,000,000.

"Labor: \$15,000,000 against \$240,000,000.

"Post Office: \$534,000,000 against \$857,000,000.

"State: \$317,000,000 against \$308,000,000. [Well, what do you know!]

"Treasury: \$6,086,000,000 against \$10,055,000,000.

"In conclusion: the total budget for 1949 was \$39,057,000,000 as compared with \$80,410,000,000 for 1961.

"Now . . . Is government that much better, or is there any prospect that it may be? Is the nation more secure? Are services (mail delivery, for example) improved? Have problems been solved?

"No! . . . Just plain, simple 'No!'"

Yes, America is certainly strolling down Bankrupt Boulevard. As a matter of fact, we apparently are just about at the end of the street!

Pray for Evangelist Sumner's meetings:  
August 8-20:  
Skeels Baptist Church  
Gladwin, Michigan  
August 27-September 10:  
City-Wide Meeting  
Crowell, Texas

red-haired, awkward chap, and said to him: "I wish you would be a Christian; won't you?" And Sandy said: "Well, I don't know. Perhaps I will." And sure enough, after a little, one night in the little church, Sandy Jones accepted Christ. Straightway, he stalked across that little meeting house, held out his hand and said, "I thank you, John. I thank you, I thank you, John."

Dr. Broadus went forth from that little town and became a great scholar, a great exegete and theological president. Every summer when he went home to that little town (and he hardly missed a season), this awkward, red-haired old farmer, in his plain

clothes, with red sand in his boots, would come up, stick out his great bony hand and say, "Howdy John. Thank you, John. Thank you, John. Thank you, John. I never forget, John."

And they say that when Dr. Broadus lay dying, his family about him, he said: "I rather think the sound sweetest to my ears in Heaven, next to the welcome of Him, whom having not seen I have loved and tried to serve, will be the welcome of Sandy Jones, as he will thrust out his great hand and say, 'Howdy John; thank you, John; thank you, John; thank you, John.'"

—From *Two Win One*,



# OUR LETTERS!



By Viola Walden

The picture above is not too much exaggerated!

The file drawer is not quite that long, but it would not hold our letter-month letters!

Things have a way of piling up on my desk! Just let me spend one day writing ads, or reading SWORD

1961  
Letter  
Month  
Comments

copy, or working on some other worthy project—then I'm in trouble. There will be two baskets full of miscellaneous mail which need attention. And since Dr. Rice calls in at least every other day when he is away, I have to be ready to digest his mail for him by long distance.

Letters marked "comments" are laid aside a bit to give way for rush mail.

This past week I have had a ball, spelled two ways—ball and bawl—as I read the great stack of wonderful letters from you who wrote during Letter Month. In fact, there were so many that it will take one article in every issue for the rest of the year to quote just the good ones!

Perhaps you wonder why we bother to quote this mail in THE SWORD, when you already get THE SWORD, enjoy it and know how good it is. We do have a purpose, and that is this: We hope it will make you realize what a blessing THE SWORD OF THE LORD and other SWORD literature can be to others. We want you to think about how delighted preachers are to have THE SWORD, how eagerly people look forward to receiving it, how valuable they feel it is in their Christian lives.

And then when you have thought of that, we want you to consider if there is someone for whom you should subscribe. Perhaps some friend will come to mind; a friend who cannot hear good gospel preaching; a friend who does not know the Lord or a new Christian who needs training or instruction. Maybe the Lord will lay on your heart your pastor, or some other preacher friend who does not receive it. Why not subscribe for them? We are sure THE SWORD OF THE LORD will be a blessing.

So many people write and tell us that we know almost anybody who reads it steadily will receive rich teaching and blessing. You can be the instrument to bring them that blessing.

By subscribing for THE SWORD OF THE LORD for a friend, you give them not only fifty-two issues of the paper, some 150 sermons—but you give them a gift that cannot be measured—strength and help and joy in their daily living. You read THE SWORD OF THE LORD and are blessed; shouldn't you pass that blessing along to others who may not know about it? We believe you would find it a joyous experience in your own life to help another find the weekly inspiration and comfort and help of THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Try it and see! And do it now.

Now I have taken the letters from the file drawer marked "Letter Month 1961 Comments," cataloged them, and begin quoting them in this issue.

## "Thank God for Using Sword to Open Our Eyes" to Modernism

From Birmingham, Alabama, comes an order for 100 "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" with this word: "For many years we were members of a modernistic church. After we began reading THE SWORD we became convinced that we were in the wrong place. God led us in a very unusual way to a Conservative Baptist Church where Christ is glorified. Whereas before, our children only thought of parties and good times in connection with going to church, now it is thrilling to hear them speak of Christ as their best

Friend and constant Companion. Thanks to God for using THE SWORD to open our eyes."

A good lady from Jefferson, Ohio, says that "by heeding and obeying God's Word in the chapter in *The Home, 'Wives to Be Subject to Husbands'*, our home-life has been completely changed. God has answered 'impossible' (to us) prayer in our family . . . ." She ordered a pamphlet for her cousin in Germany and a subscription to THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

## Son Killed in Accident: Sword Helped Mother to Help Others in the Family

THE SWORD has met a real need in the life of Mrs. Turline Stacy of Omaha, Nebraska. She ordered four dollars worth of books, then told this tragic story about her son:

"I do not know who sent me THE SWORD, but I shall be everlastingly grateful to this friend. How much I've missed through the years by not having it! I have been so afraid each issue would be the last and it would stop coming before I could get the money together for a subscription. My son, an only child, was killed in Venezuela just after receiving his Master's Degree in geology. He had gone there for further training and was on a tour of the country with a caravan of trainees when the accident happened. Now I have two brothers and two sisters critically ill. THE SWORD has helped me to help all my family as well as myself, especially since I've stopped all my publications from my church, affiliated with the American Baptist Convention . . . ."

A dear lady from Concordia, Kansas, writes: "I don't know if Dr. Rice knows it or not, but it might be told to him that last May God used the booklet, *Divorce, the Wreck of Marriage*, to save our marriage . . . ."

A friend in St. Clair, Missouri, tells how much he enjoys THE SWORD OF THE LORD, thinks every family should have it. He got a copy of *Lodges Examined By the Bible*, loaned it to a friend who was a third degree Mason: "When he returned the book he told me he had quit the Masons. He is a Baptist." Wasn't the purchase of *Lodges Examined by the Bible* worthwhile?

## "... Yours Is the Only Paper From Which I Derive Spiritual Strength"

Mrs. Highsmith of Durham, North Carolina, says that THE SWORD is the best, the most evangelistic, the most steadying paper in print.

"We have a Guest House in which we try to awaken souls and arouse patriotic interests. When I get tired of being beaten down, rowing up stream, and wishing for Elijah's juniper tree under which to hide, I read THE SWORD and it gives me new faith and hope . . . . For years I tried to mix water and kerosene, as modernists continue to do, but the mixture always had an unwholesome odor. Finally I threw my church letter in the waste-paper basket and started serving the Lord. He has abundantly blessed.

"To sum up the entire matter—yours is the only paper from which I derive spiritual strength.

Many others give me enthusiasm but not spirituality."

## Sword Helped Terminate a Seven-Year Separation Between Husband and Wife

I will not use the name of this writer because of the nature of the letter, though I feel sure he would not mind. From Norwich, Connecticut, he writes that through the kindness of an old church deacon a number of years ago, he received THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

"Because of THE SWORD's convicting and strengthening literature, combined with an awakening to the Word of God, my life has been transformed to one of service and obedience to our Lord and King, Jesus Christ. Many God-wrought miracles have been seen and partaken of, foremost of which was the termination of a seven-year separation between my wife and I. How we praise Him with thankful hearts! Our home is a fortress for Christ now, with daily family Bible reading and prayer."

God bless that old deacon who gave the first subscription to this man! If he is in Heaven now, he already knows the result of his labors.

From the Philippine Islands a brother thanks us for sending him THE SWORD free each week, then adds: "Had it not been for your paper and some of your books and pamphlets I should have been a modernist by now."

Read what *The Ruin of a Christian* did to Mr. and Mrs. Winter of Denver, Colorado: "My husband and I are reading out loud *The Ruin of a Christian*. With tears we have confessed our lukewarmness and are seeking to serve Him from a hot heart of love."

They are listeners to "Voice of Revival" on KLIP in Denver.

Mrs. Blanché Phillips of Clinton, Tennessee, sent a subscription to one of their missionaries, told how she had been living closer to the Lord in the past three years since she has been taking THE SWORD OF THE LORD, and, "my husband and I moved our church letter to an independent Baptist church since taking your paper. I have sent lots of your literature to different people and I have subscribed for your paper for ten different people. This one makes eleven. I only wish I could send it to a thousand." Thank you, dear Mrs. Phillips, for the subscription. We hope your missionary will be greatly blessed by its weekly visit in West Africa.

And so it goes. Some of you subscribers no doubt had a part in the blessing THE SWORD paper and books brought in these lives. I know the reading of such mail brings a real sense of satisfaction to you, that your money was well invested in a blessed work. But none of us can say we have done all that we know to do to spread the Gospel to our friends, can we? So I trust the reading of such testimonies as given above will help us to lengthen our cords and strengthen our stakes for the Master. Please assure us of your prayers for this work, that as we publish the Word and send it forth, it shall not return unto us void, but it shall accomplish that which we please, and it shall prosper in the things whereto we sent it.

## What You Can Do

1. You can tell your friends what THE SWORD has done for you and for your spiritual life and ask them to subscribe for themselves.
2. You can pass your copies on for others to read, either requesting them to return them to you for others, or to pass them on themselves.
3. You can send the names and addresses of those whom you think would be interested in subscribing, and we will be glad to send them sample copies.
4. You can subscribe for your friends and neighbors.

"Have you had a kindness shown? Pass it on.

"Twas not meant for thee alone, Pass it on.

Let it travel down the years, Let it dry another's tears,

(Continued next column)



From my

KITCHEN WINDOW

By Jessie Rice Sandberg

## Dressmaking

I suppose that if I ever had to choose one particular homemaking art as my favorite, it would be dressmaking. There is just something about a wide spread of lovely fabric that makes my fingers itch for a pattern and a pair of scissors. The exciting thing about sewing is that the completed garment is always one of a kind. No matter how common the pattern or the material or the special trim and buttons, the combination makes it completely original.

Sometimes even when the same pattern and material are used to make several garments, the results are not identical. Last Christmas several ladies of the church made little angel costumes for the primary children to wear in the Christmas program. The pattern was a simple T-shaped arrangement without any extra adornment except for a bit of tinsel at the waist, but somehow, each costume made by a different lady had a slightly different look about it. Perhaps the difference was in the type of seam used or maybe some of the seamstresses added gussets, but the individuality was there—whatever the reason.

My husband usually picks out the material and the pattern anytime I get ready to make a dress. I trust his taste a great deal more than I do my own. Men seem to have a better eye for that sort of thing. Or perhaps their taste is less influenced by current fads of fashion and so they are more apt judges of basic, long-lasting style. For many years before I was married—and several afterward—my dad picked out nine dresses every Christmas—one for my mother, one each for Miss Viola Walden and Miss Fairy Shappard (who are practically my sisters, having worked at the SWORD office for more than 25 years), and one for each of his six daughters. The fit for each was nearly always perfect and the style always just right for each individual "girl." One saleslady in a Wheaton store still tells me how amazed she was at Dad's excellent taste.

When I do my own picking out

"Till in Heaven the deed appears, Pass it on."

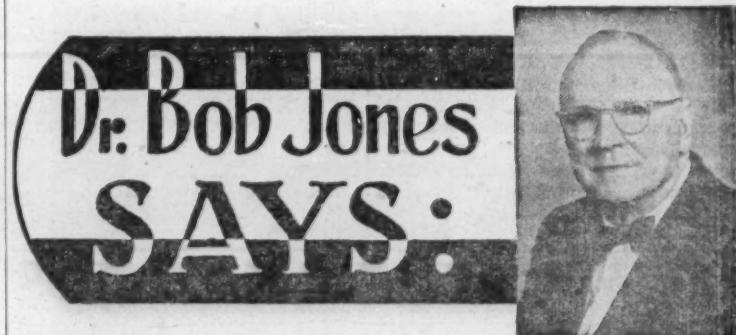
Begin today to let your influence for Christ be felt by introducing others to THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

of materials and patterns I sometimes find that I have chosen a pattern which looked pretty enough on paper but which is really not suited to the fabric at all. I have in my closet a dress which I made seven years ago. The sturdy material is still in excellent condition and the handwork is not too bad. But I wear it rarely, never with real comfort and pleasure. The pattern just did not suit the material. The fabric is too heavy for the flounciness of the skirt and for the cut of the sleeves. I always think that someday I will make it over but of course it always takes a great deal more character to take apart a dress and make it over than it does to start from scratch. I suppose I ought to just give the dress away and be done with it.

Can it be that some of us are like that old dress hanging in the back of my closet? The Lord has given us good material to work with but we have cut our lives to patterns that do not fit the fabric. Perhaps the Lord had a good, practical pattern for us, but we wanted to go by our own design and adorn the garment with little glittering, selfish interests here and there. The result is that we are ill-fitting and uncomfortable garments. Our fabric was designed for usefulness and serviceability, but we have cut the pattern to include so many cumbersome frills and flounces that we are out of place at the kitchen sink of service and dedication. Nor are we quite at home at the world's riotous parties either. It is no wonder that we spend most of our wasted lives in some back closet of uselessness.

What kind of a pattern have you used for your life? The wrong one? Well, perhaps it is not too late to find some service yet. Let us ask the Lord for the grace to take things apart here and there (and to do a little re-cutting, if necessary) and to make of our lives garments fit for His service.

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God"—Romans 12:1, 2.



Dr. Bob Jones  
SAYS:

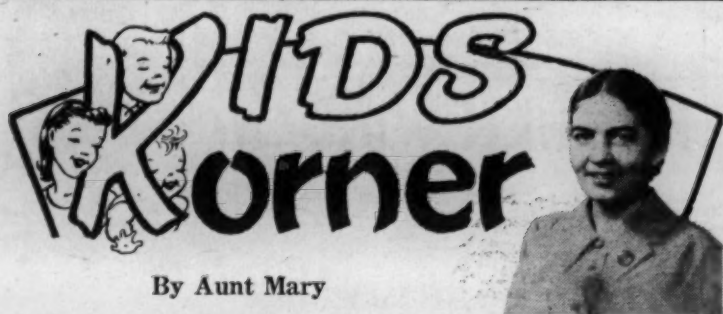
I read a letter a few days ago that my son, Bob, Jr., the President of the University, received from an alumnus of our school who is a Chaplain in the Army. The letter impressed me tremendously. Graduates of Bob Jones University are in many departments of the Government as well as in many businesses and professions; and almost 100 per cent of them are standing for the Bible as the Word of God and for the necessity of the new birth. They are not wavering, and we thank God for them.

We also thank God for our good, faithful friends scattered all over the world who are praying for Bob Jones University and who are turning the right kind of young people to the University and who are investing some of God's money in the work the Lord called us to do. We need your prayers and

your help in every way possible, and we need your financial help. We are carrying a heavier burden than most people know. It is not easy in this day of compromise to take a definite stand and to refuse to compromise with the religious liberalism that manifests itself in so many forms in all parts of the country. Now, you can help us. Pray for us; and if you know some young people who can be trained for Christian leadership in any one of the various walks of life, you can recommend them to Bob Jones University, and you can help us at least some financially. Won't you let us hear from you? Please do. Thank you, and God bless you.

BOB JONES, FOUNDER  
BOB JONES UNIVERSITY  
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Hi! Do you have "vacation blues?" Are you tired of all the things you have been doing all summer? Is baseball no longer fun, or can you not find enough kids to play with you? Does your bicycle have a flat, or are you just tired of riding it? Then "listen my child, and you shall hear" of other interesting ways to spend this vacation time.

You have heard that "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." Did you know that it is also true that "all play and no work makes Jack a dull boy" too? Perhaps you started this summer vacation with a promise to God that you would cheerfully help Mother with any job you could do for her. Since I remember my own childhood well, and know little children, I feel sure you have often disappointed Mother. Have you sometimes done what Mother asked, but pouted and acted as if Mother wasn't being quite fair to expect you to work? Then you surely know that that does not please Mother or God. You remember Colossians 3:23 says, "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men."

Now let me suggest that for a few days you plan to give Mother a real vacation. Vacation periods are usually harder on Mother and easier on the rest of the family. Mother's work gets harder while others' work is somewhat easier. Suppose you meet with Daddy and you both plan the work of the house so Mother has very little she has to do. A good place to start would be to fix breakfast every day for a week.

You say you are not sure you can do it? Wait! I will help you plan the week's breakfasts. Only this week Andy, who is eleven but has never done much cooking, got up early. He slipped into the kitchen and took down a package of pancake mix. On the side of the box were simple instructions that he could follow. When Mother got up a little later, there were pancakes cooking on the griddle, and the table was set with butter and jelly for the pancakes. I think Daddy had helped with the coffee, and Mother just sat down to enjoy the lovely breakfast. You could fix that kind of breakfast, couldn't you?

Our children's favorite breakfast is cold dry cereal with fruit and milk. Any child could set the table, pour the milk into the pitcher, fill the sugar bowl, and wash the fruit. On very special occasions we have served our dry cereal with ice cream as a special treat. If you have a toaster on your breakfast table, toast is

easy to make. Since we do not, we make our toast in the broiler of the oven. And it is easy to prepare several slices at the same time, or to butter it before the bread is toasted, if you like.

Does your family have eggs for breakfast each morning? Then perhaps you know how to cook them the way your family likes best.

Now talk to Mother about the whole project. Check your menus with her, so that the food you need will be on hand each day. Then plan to get up earlier than Mother has to, to prepare breakfast. Of course it will take you a little longer since you are not as experienced as she.

What will be that little extra job that will make Mother's vacation more successful? You guessed it! I hope you do the dishes well without any fussing and complaining.

Don't neglect your usual duties of cleaning your own room, making your own bed. Perhaps you can help each day, too, by dusting the living room.

Of course you will still have plenty of time to play. Have you played jacks in a good while, girls? That game is fun in hot weather since you can play under the shade of a tree, or even in the house. Hopscotch is still fun. Boys can try making kites again. And building models is a good hot weather game.

Do take time for a ball game sometimes. Ride your bike to a new area, learn something new about the flowers and trees. As you look at the flowers and grass, remember God's Word which says, "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever" (Isa. 40:8).

Welcome to new members, Joy Canavan in Hammond, Indiana, Marjory Benson from Raleigh, North Carolina, and Frank Siess in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Elizabeth and Pierce Deavours from Houston, Texas, also have sent their promise to read the Bible faithfully, to pray daily, and to live for the Lord Jesus.

We particularly enjoyed the letter Kathleen Johnson sent with her membership application from Pacajus, Brazil. Kathleen's parents are missionaries in South America, and apparently she too is trying to serve the Lord there by teaching a class in Portuguese to Brazilian children. She tells me that she and her parents often use Dr. Rice's book, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" in the Portuguese language. We were thrilled with the witnessing one little girl can do for the Lord in a foreign country.

Welcome to you all!



Pictured above is the new library building of Tennessee Temple Schools in Chattanooga, Tennessee. This beautiful building was officially dedicated on Saturday, May 27. It is now in use by the faculty and summer school students.

Miss Joy Mitchell, librarian, is a graduate of Tennessee Temple College and has a Master of Library Science degree from Peabody Teachers College, Nashville, Tennessee. She is assisted by Miss Dorothy Welborn, also a Temple graduate and with the Master's degree in Library Science from Peabody.

This large air-conditioned building housing thousands of selected volumes is a great asset to the work of Tennessee Temple Schools. The fall semester begins on September 11.

## Back to Murfreesboro!

Whole Families August 21-27 at the Bill Rice Ranch

The Sword Conference on Revival and Soul Winning for the first week in July at the Bill Rice Ranch, nine miles west of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, on Franklin Road, Highway 96, was tremendous, but the ground was overrun with people. Some people put up a tent. Some people slept in cars. Mrs. Rice and I and Mrs. MacMullen and her two children were taken in at the home of my sister, Mrs. R. C. Nutting and her kind husband. Others stayed in motels and the hotel around Murfreesboro, and Dr. Bill Rice told me that at least half as many reservations were turned down as were accepted because there simply was no room to keep them.

Well, we need another big week at the conference and this it is. The Sword Family Conference from Monday, August 21, through Sunday, August 27, will be a full-scale conference, full program, and we earnestly pray for the breath of Heaven to come upon all of us as people gather from many states for this time of blessing.

**Special Group Meetings for Women, for Young People, for Children, for Men, 9:30 to 10:30 Daily**

Yes, every day of the seven days it is planned that beloved and gifted leaders will deal with four special groups, teaching them, having forum discussions, and having delightful spiritual feasts with them.

Mrs. Jessie Rice Sandberg, author of the column, "From My Kitchen Window" in THE SWORD OF THE LORD, will have charge of the women's meeting from 9:30 to 10:30 each morning. What a good time these women will have! There will be Bible teaching, questions and answers, discussion of home life, the joys, duties, and problems of wives and mothers, hints about homemaking, help about rearing children, and how women can best serve the Lord and win souls. Mrs. Sandberg is a trained artist, gifted writer and a charming Christian. I envy the women who will come from many states to hear Mrs. Sandberg, to ask her questions, and under her leadership, to draw near to the Lord Jesus with their problems.

Young people will meet separately each morning from 9:30 to 10:30 under the direction of Evangelist Walt Handford, the brilliant young assistant editor of the Sword, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Wheaton, and a Spirit-filled evangelist; and his wife, Elizabeth Rice Handford. Mrs. Handford is the author of the Bible Crossword Puzzles in THE SWORD OF THE LORD, the author of the Christian novel, *Romance at Red Pines*, and the author of the very widely spread pamphlet on *For Teen-agers Only*. These two will have a rousing good time, and so will all the young people who meet with them. I think there will be so many that they will have to use the big tabernacle.

The children will meet each day under the gifted leadership of "Aunt Mary," whose column in THE SWORD OF THE LORD attracts so many children. Mrs. Mary Lloyds Himes will tell Bible stories, use object lessons, use the flannelgraph, teach the children choruses, have prayer meetings and otherwise have a wonderful time with the children. She takes children under her wings everywhere she goes; she has four of her own. Just as babies everywhere go to this young mother, often leaving their own parents to do so, so the kids will flock around "Aunt Mary" of the "Kids Korner." A good time, kids! Get your family to come.

The men each morning will meet from 9:30 to 10:30 under the direction of this editor, John R. Rice, and Dr. Bill Rice. There will be Bible study, questions and answers about doctrine, help on soul winning and prayer meetings as we men bring our burdens to each other and to the Lord.

I think that this special feature of the divided services each morning will make this a week long remembered for blessings. Be sure to bring the whole family.

**Hear Daily During the Conference Dr. Lee Roberson, Dr. Bill Rice, Evangelist Walt Handford, Editor John R. Rice**

Besides the special morning session, 9:30 to 10:30, in the divided sections, there will be mass meetings at 10:45 till noon each day, and again from 6:45 to 7:45 and then after a brief intermission, at 8:00 o'clock each evening. Here is the schedule of services:

Monday, 10:45, Walt Handford; 6:45 p.m., Dr. John R. Rice; 8:00 p.m., Dr. Lee Roberson.

Tuesday, 10:45, Dr. Lee Roberson; 6:45 p.m., Dr. Lee Roberson; 8:00 p.m., Dr. John R. Rice.

Wednesday, 10:45, Dr. Bill Rice; 6:45 p.m., Dr. John R. Rice; 8:00 p.m., Evangelist Walt Handford.

Thursday, 10:45, Dr. John R. Rice; 6:45 p.m., Evangelist Walt Handford; 8:00 p.m., Dr. Bill Rice.

Friday, 10:45 a.m., Evangelist Walt Handford; 6:45 p.m., Dr. Bill Rice; 8:00 p.m., Dr. John R. Rice.

Saturday, 10:45 a.m., Evangelist Walt Handford; 6:45 p.m., Dr. John R. Rice; 8:00 p.m., Dr. Bill Rice.

Sunday, 10:45 a.m., Dr. John R. Rice; 6:45 p.m., Dr. Bill Rice; 8:00 p.m., Dr. John R. Rice.

We expect a great pouring out of God's blessing when every room on the big Ranch conference ground will be filled. We hope that all who can come will plan to be with us, but you must make your reservation soon to be sure of the rooms.

**Moderate Expenses, \$14 Per Week and Up**

We believe that for the accommodations and for the wonderful meals that are provided, the rates at the Bill Rice Ranch are most reasonable. Therefore, many can bring whole families to the conference and enjoy the delights of sweet fellowship, vacation in a Christian environment, and a great moving of the Spirit of God in reviving the hearts of Christians and preparing them to win souls.

The base rate for the conference ground is \$2.50 per day, or \$14 per week, per person, including food and a room in the cabins. The cabins are simple and plain, two large rooms to a cabin with electric lights, but with water and modern toilets nearby, not connected with the room. Or, one may

pay \$2 a day extra and have a honeymoon hotel room for two with semiprivate bath. Or, as long as they last one may pay \$4 a day extra for a large motel room with accommodations for four and with private bath. The base rate for children under 7 is \$10 per week or \$1.50 per day, cabin rate.

**Wonderful Recreation, Horseback Riding, Fishing, Shuffleboard, Ping-Pong, Softball Games**

Recreation will be under the direction of Evangelist Chuck Himes. Those who like may bring their fishing equipment to fish in the lake as many do. Others may play shuffleboard, ping-pong, or miniature golf. There will be softball games organized, probably most of the days of the week, for those who wish to play. Horseback riding cost extra 75c per ride or \$1.50 for the double long ride. There will be cookout breakfasts for those who like to ride the horses two and a half miles over to the back of the ranch and eat pancakes, bacon, eggs, coffee and syrup with food prepared over an open fire, and then ride back. Oh, there will be many talk-fests, many a prayer meeting, much sweet fellowship and we hope a good many people saved.

**Make Reservations at Once**

The accommodations are limited. There are 26 cabin rooms. There are 12 honeymoon hotel rooms. There are 30 motel rooms with private bath. We believe that every bit of space will be taken. We hope then if you plan to come you will make a reservation at once. Send \$1.00 per person to Dr. Bill Rice, Bill Rice Ranch, Franklin Road, Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Say when you will arrive, how many will be in the party and how long you will stay. Tell what accommodations you prefer and if you cannot get that, tell what you will accept. Better do it today. Those who are driving will find the Bill Rice Ranch plainly marked nine miles west of Murfreesboro on the Franklin Road, Highway 96, or coming from the north from Nashville, you can take the old Highway 41 south to Triune and then go east on Highway 96 (Franklin Road) to the Bill Rice Ranch.

Make reservations at once. Pray for Pentecostal blessings!

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## Hairs Counted

(Continued from page 1)

tion, would probably have been in the other world.

Some there may be who deny providence altogether. I cannot conceive that there were any partakers of the scene who could have done so. This I know: if I had been an unbeliever to that day in the doctrine of the supervision and wise care of God, I must have been a believer in it at this hour. Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together; He hath been very gracious unto us, and remembered us for good.

Now, when we look abroad, we see, as we think, such abundant proofs that there is a God, that we are apt to treat a man who denies the existence of a God with very little respect or patience. We believe him to be willfully blind, for we see God's name so legible upon the very surface of creation, that we cannot have patience with him if he dares to deny the existence of a Creator.

And in the matter of salvation: we have each of us seen in our own salvation such positive marks of the Lord's dealings with us, that we are apt to be somewhat censorious and harsh towards any who propound a doctrine which would teach salvation apart from God. And I think we shall be very apt this morning to think hardly of the man, who, having seen and heard of such a providence as that which I have just related, could fail to see God's hand.

It seems to me that the hand of God in providence is as clear as in creation; and whilst I am sure that if saved at all I must be saved by God, I feel equally certain that every matter which concerns all of us in daily life, bears upon itself the evident trace of being the handiwork of Jehovah our God. We must, if we would be true believers in God and would avoid all atheism, give unto Him the kingship in the three kingdoms of creation, grace, and providence.

It is in the last, however, that I think we are the most apt to forget Him. We may easily see God in creation if we be at all enlightened, and if saved, we cannot avoid confessing that salvation is of the Lord alone. The very way in which we are saved, and the effect of grace in our hearts, always compel us to feel that God is just. But providence is such a checkered thing, and you and I are so prone to misjudge God and to come to rash conclusions concerning His dealings with us, that perhaps this is the greatest stronghold of our natural atheism—a doubt of God's dealings with us in the arrangements of outward affairs. This morning I shall not be able to go deeply into the subject, but very heartily can I enter into it, after being so great a partaker of His wonder-working power.

From the text I shall draw one or two points. First of all, the text says "the very hairs of our head are all numbered." From this I shall infer the *minuteness of providence*. Again, inasmuch as it is said of believers that the hairs of their heads are all numbered, I shall infer the *kind consideration, the generous care, which God exercises over Christians*. And then, from the text, and from our Saviour's reason for uttering these words, I shall draw a *practical conclusion of what should be the spirit and temper of the men who believe this truth*—that the very hairs of their head are all numbered.

### I. God Takes Notice of Smallest Details

First, then, our text very clearly teaches us THE MINUTENESS OF PROVIDENCE. Every man can see providence in great things; it is very seldom that you find any person denying that when an avalanche falls from the summit of the Alps, the hand, the terrible hand of God is there. There are very few men who do not feel that God is present in the whirlwind, and in the storm. Most men will acknowledge that the earthquake, the hurricane, the devastation of war, and the ravages of pestilence, come from the hand of God. We find most men very

willing to confess that God is God of the hills, but they forget that He is also Lord of the valleys. They will grant that He deals with great masses, but not with individuals; with seas in the bulk, but not with drops.

Most men forget, however, that the fact which they believe of providence being in great things involves a providence in the little, for it were an inconsistent belief that the mass were in God's hand, whilst the atom was left to chance; it is indeed a belief that contradicts itself; we must believe all chance or else all God. We must have all ordained and arranged, or else we must have everything left to the wild whirlwind of chance and accident. But I believe that it is in little things that we fail to see God; therefore, it is to the little things that I call your attention this morning.

I believe my text means literally what it says. "The very hairs of your head are all numbered." God's wisdom and knowledge are so great that He even knows the number of the hairs upon our head. His providence descends to the minute particles of dust in the summer gale; He numbers the gnats in the sunshine, and the fishes in the sea. While it certainly doth control the massive orbs that shine in Heaven, it doth not blush to deal with the drop that trickleth from the eye.

### 1. God Controls the Circumstances of Daily Life

Now, I shall want you to notice how little circumstances of daily life, when we come to put them all together, evidently betray their origin. I will take a Scripture history and show how the little events must have been of God, as well as the great results.

When Joseph was sent into Egypt by his brethren, in order to provide for them against a day of famine, we all agree with Joseph's declaration, "It was God that sent me hither." But now, if we notice each of the little ways through which this great result was brought to pass, we shall see God in each of them. One day Joseph's brethren are gone out with the sheep; Jacob wants to send to them. Why does he send Joseph? He was his darling son; he loved him better than all his brethren. Why does he send him away? He sends him, however. Then why should it have happened at that particular time, that Jacob should want to send at all? However, he did want to send, and he did send Joseph. A mere accident, you will say, but quite necessary as the base-ment of the structure.

Joseph goes; his brethren are in want of pasture, and therefore leave Shechem, where Joseph expected to find them, and journey on to Dothan. Why go to Dothan? Was not the whole land before them? However, Joseph goes there; he arrives at Dothan just when they are thinking of him and his dreams, and they put him into a pit.

As they are about to eat bread, some Ishmaelites come by. Why did they come there at all? Why did they come at that particular time? Why were they going to Egypt? Why might they not have been going any other way? Why was it that the Ishmaelites wanted to buy slaves? Why might they not have been trading in some other commodity?

However, Joseph is sold; but he is not disposed of on the road to Egypt; he is taken to the land. Why is it that Potiphar is to buy him? Why is it that Potiphar has a wife at all? Why is it again that Potiphar's wife should be so full of lust? Why should Joseph get into prison?

How is it that the baker and the butler should offend their master? All chance, as the world has it, but every link necessary to make the chain. They do both offend their master; they are both put into prison. How is it that they both dream? How is it that Joseph interprets the dreams? How is it that the butler forgets him? Why, just because if he had recollected him, it would have spoiled it all.

Why is it Pharaoh dreams? How can dreams be under the arrangement of God's providence? However, Pharaoh does dream; the butler then thinks on Joseph; Joseph is brought out of prison and taken before Pharaoh. But take away any of those simple circum-

stances, break any one of the links of the chain, and the whole of the design is scattered to the winds. You cannot get the machine to work; if any of the minute cogs of the wheels are taken away, everything is disarranged.

I think it seems very clear to any man who will dissect not only that, but any other history he likes to fix upon, that there must be a God in the little accidents and dealings of daily life, as well as in the great results that tell upon the page of history, and are recounted in our songs. God is to be seen in little things.

### 2. How Punctual God Is in Arranging Details!

We will now notice, in the minutiae of providence, how *punctual* providence always is. You will never wonder more at providence, than when you consider how well God keeps time with Himself. To return to our history—how it is that the Ishmaelites should come by just at that time? How many thousand chances there were that their journey might have been taken just before! There certainly was no special train to call at that station at that particular time, so that Joseph's brethren might arrange to go and call him. No such thing. And yet if there had been all this arrangement, it could not have happened better. You know Reuben intended to fetch Joseph out of the pit half an hour later, and "the child was not." God had these Ishmaelites ready; you do not know how He may have sped them on their journey, or delayed them; so as to bring them on the spot punctually at the identical moment.

To give another instance, there was a poor woman whose son had been raised from the dead by Elisha; she, however, had left her country at the time of famine, and had lost her estate. She wanted to get it back; God determined that she should have it. How was it to be done?

The king sends for Gehazi, the servant of Elisha, and he talks to him: He tells him one instance about a woman who had had a child raised from the dead. How strange! In comes the woman herself. My lord, this is the woman; she comes to obtain her suit. Her desire is granted, just because at the very moment the king's mind is interested concerning her. All chance, was it not? Nothing but chance? So fools say; but those who read Bibles, and those who have judgment, say there is something more than chance in such a coalition of circumstances.

It could not be a mere coincidence, as men sometimes say; there must be God here, for it is harder to think that there is not God than that there is. And whilst a belief in God may be said by some to involve a great stretch of faith, the putting Him out of such things as this would involve an infinitely greater amount of credulity. No, there was God there.

There is another instance that I remember in the New Testament history. Paul goes into the temple, and the Jews rush upon him in a moment to kill him. They drag him out of the temple, and the doors are shut against him. They are just in the very act of killing him, and what is to become of poor Paul's life? Five minutes longer and Paul will be dead, when up comes the chief captain and delivers him.

How was it that the chief captain knew of it? Very probably some young man of the crowd who knew Paul and loved him, ran to tell him. But why was it that the chief captain was at home? How was it that the ruler was able to come on a moment's emergency? How was it that he did come at all? It was only just a Hebrew, a man that was good for nothing, being killed. How was it that he came, and when he came the streets were full; there was a mob about Jerusalem? How did he come to the right street? How did he come at the exact nick of time? Say, "It is all chance!" I laugh at you; it is providence.

If there be anything in the work that is plain to any man that thinks, it is plain that God

"Overrules all mortal things,  
And manages our mean affair."

But mark, that the running of

the youth, and his arrival at the precise time, and the coming of the chief governor at the precise time, just proved the punctuality of divine providence; and if God has a design that a thing shall happen at twelve, if you have appointed it for eleven, it shall not happen till twelve; and if He means it to be delayed till one, it is in vain that you propose any earlier or any later. God's punctuality in providence is always sure, and very often apparent.

### 3. God Providentially Uses Smallest Things

Nor is it only in the minutes of time that we get an idea of the minuteness of providence, but it is in the use of little things. A sparrow has turned the fate of an empire. You remember the old story of Mohammed flying from his pursuers. He enters a cave,

and a sparrow chirps at the entrance, and flies away as the pursuers pass. "Oh," say they, "there is no fear that Mohammed is there, otherwise the bird would have gone a long while ago"; and the impostor's life is saved by a sparrow.

We think, perhaps, that God directs the motions of the leviathan and guides him in the sea, when He makes the deep to be hoary. Will we please to recollect that the guidance of a minnow in its tiny pool is an much in the hand of providence as the motion of the great serpent in the depths.

You see the birds congregate in the autumn, ready for their flight across the purple sea. They fly hither and thither in strange confusion. The believer in providence holds that the wing

(Continued on page 8)

## Fairy Suggests



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Exalted, I walked around the room and sang with all my heart! I felt as if I were in a wonderful revival service—the kind I get so hungry to attend. Mr. Ralph Carmichael, on a record, was leading his male chorus in Gospel songs. The tempos were lively and authentic—the arrangements original and *beautifully* harmonized. I spontaneously sang along with them (at the top of my voice!)

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Really brilliant people intrigue me. Take Dr. Rice, for instance. I've often wished I could watch his brain in action.

There must be a couple of hundred *somebods* at work at the same time!

Another brain that I've wished I could look in on is the one owned by Mr. Arthur De Moss, head of De Moss Associates, the company which offers the famous Gold Star Hospitalization Policy.

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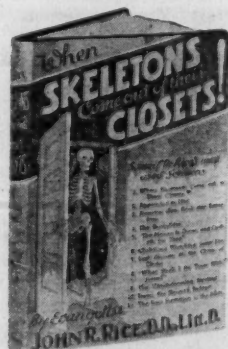
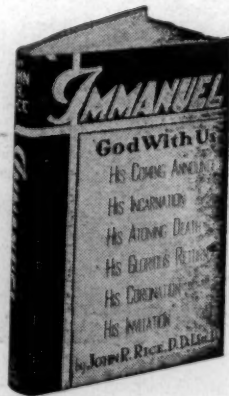
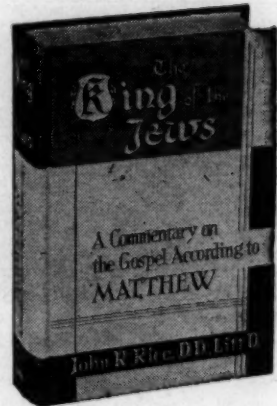
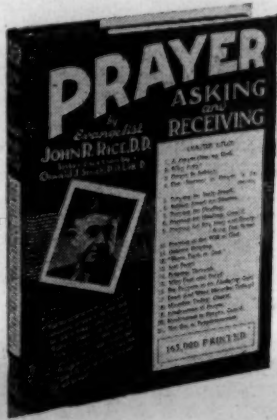
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## Hairs Counted

(Continued from page 5)

of every bird has stamped upon it the place where it shall fly, and fly with never such vagaries of its own wild will, it cannot diverge so much as the millionth part of an inch from its predestinated track. It may whirl about, above, beneath—east, west, north, south—wherever it pleases; still, it is all according to the providential hand of God. And although we see it not, it may be that if that swallow did not take the precise track which it does take, something a little greater might be affected thereby; and again, something a little greater still might be affected, until at last a great thing would be involved in a little.

Blessed is that man who seeth God in trifles! It is there that it is the hardest to see Him; but he who believes that God is there may go from the little providence up to the God of providence.

Rest assured, when the fish in the sea take their migration, they have a captain and a leader, as well as the stars; for He who marshals the stars in their courses and guides the planets in their march, is the master of the fly, and wings the bat, and guides the minnow, and doth not despise the tiniest of His creatures.

You say there is predestination in the path of the earth; you believe that in the shining of the sun there is the ordinance of God; there is as much His ordinance in the creeping of an insect or in the glimmering of a glow-worm in the darkness. In nothing is there chance, but in everything there is a God. All things live and move in Him; and have their being; nor could they live or move otherwise; for God hath so ordained them.

I hear one say, "Well, sir, you seem to be a fatalist!" No, far from it. There is just this difference between fate and providence. Fate is blind; providence has eyes. Fate is blind, a thing that must be; it is just an arrow shot from a bow, that must fly onward, but hath no target.

Not so, providence; providence is full of eyes. There is a design in everything and an end to be answered; all things are working together and working together for good. They are not done because they must be done, but they are done because there is some reason for it. It is not only that the thing is, because it must be; but the thing is, because it is right it should be. God hath not arbitrarily marked out the world's history; He had an eye to the great

architecture of perfection, when He marked all the aisles of history and placed all the pillars of events in the building of time.

### 4. God Even Bends the Thoughts of Men to Use Them

There is another thing that we have to recollect also, which will strike us perhaps more than the smallness of things. The minuteness of providence may be seen in the fact that even the thoughts of men are under God's hand. Now, thoughts are things which generally escape our attention, when we speak of providence. But how much may depend upon a thought! Oftentimes a monarch has had a thought which has cost a nation many a bloody battle. Sometimes a good man has had a thought which has been the means of rescuing multitudes from Hell and bearing thousands safely to Heaven. Beyond a doubt, every imagination, every passing thought, every conception, that is only born to die, is under the hand of God.

And in turning over the page of history, you will often be struck when you see how great a thing has been brought about by an idle word. Depend upon it, then, that the will of man, the thought of man, the desire of man, that every purpose of man, is immediately under the hand of God.

Take an instance—Jesus Christ is to be born at Bethlehem; His mother is living at Nazareth: He will be born there to a dead certainty. No, not so. Caesar takes a whim into his head. All the world shall be taxed, and he will have all of them go to their own city. What necessity for that? Stupid idea of Caesar's! If he had had a parliament, they would have voted against him. They would have said, "Why make all the people go to their own peculiar city to the census? Take the census where they live; that will be abundantly sufficient." "No," says he, "it is my will, and Caesar cannot be opposed." Some think Caesar mad. God knows what He means to do with Caesar.

Mary, great with child, must take a laborious journey to Bethlehem; and there is her child born in a manger. We should not have had the prophecy fulfilled, that Christ should be born at Bethlehem, and our very faith in the Messiah might have been shaken, if it had not been for that whim of Caesar's. So that even the will of man; the tyranny, the despotism of the tyrant, is in the hand of God, and He turneth it whithersoever He pleaseth, to work His own will.

Gathering up all our heads into one short statement, it is our firm belief that He who wings an angel guides a sparrow. We believe that He who supports the dignity of His throne amidst the splendors of Heaven, maintains it also in the depths of the dark sea. We believe that there is nothing above, beneath, around, which is not according to the determination

of His own counsel and will; and while we are not fatalists, we do most truly and sternly hold the doctrine, that God hath decreed all things whatsoever that come to pass, and that He overruleth all things for His own glory and good; so that with Martin Luther, we can say,

He everywhere hath sway,  
And all things serve His might,  
His every act pure blessing is,  
His path unsullied light.

### II. God Providentially Cares for His Own Tenderly

The second point is, THE KIND CONSIDERATION OF GOD IN TAKING CARE OF HIS PEOPLE. In reading the text, I thought, "There is better care taken of me than I can take care of myself." You all take care of yourselves to some extent, but which of you ever took so much care of himself as to count the hairs of his head? But God will not only protect our limbs, but even the excrescence of hair is to be seen after. And how much this excels all the care of our tenderest friends!

Look at the mother, how careful she is. If her child have a little cough, she notices it; the slightest weakness is sure to be observed. She has watched all its motions anxiously, to see whether it walked right, whether all its limbs were sound, and whether it had the use of all its powers in perfection; but she has never thought of numbering the hairs of her child's head, and the absence of one or two of them would give her no great concern. But our God is more careful of us, even than a mother with her child—so careful that He numbers the hairs of our head. How safe we, then, beneath the hand of God!

### 1. God Keeps People Before They Are Saved

However, leaving the figure, let us again notice the kind, guardian care, which God exerts over His people in the way of providence. I have often been struck with the providence of God in keeping His people alive before they were converted. How many are there here who would have been in Hell at this hour if some special providence had not kept them alive till the time of their conversion!

I remember mentioning this in company, and almost every person in the room had some half-miracle to tell concerning his own deliverance before conversion. One gentleman, I remember, was a sporting man, who afterwards became an eminent Christian. He told me that a little time before his conversion he was shooting, and his gun burst in four pieces, which stood upright in the earth as near as possible in the exact form of a square, having been driven nearly a foot into the ground, while he stood there unharmed and quite safe, having scarcely felt the shock.

I was noticing in Hervey's works one day a very pretty thought on this subject. He says, "Two persons who had been hunting together in the day, slept together the following night. One of them was renewing the pursuit in his dream, and, having run the whole circle of the chase, came at last to the fall of the stag; upon this he cries out with a determined ardor, 'I'll kill him! I'll kill him!' and immediately feels for the knife which he carried in his pocket. His companion happening to awake, and observing what passed, leaped from the bed. Being secure from danger, and the moon shining in the room, he stood to view the event, when, to his inexpressible surprise, the infuriated sportsman gave several deadly stabs in the very place where a moment before the throat and the life of his friend lay.

This I mention as a proof that nothing hinders us, even from being assassins of others, or murderers of ourselves, amidst the mad sallies of sleep, only the preventing care of our heavenly Father."

### 2. Christians Are Often Kept From Temptations which Would Conquer Us

How wonderful the providence of God with regard to Christian people, in keeping them out of temptation. I have often noticed this fact, and I believe you are able to confirm it: there are times when if a temptation should

come, you would be overtaken by it; but the temptation does not come. And at other times, when the temptation comes, you have supernatural strength to resist it. Yes! the best Christian in the world will tell you that such is still the strength of his lust, that there are moments when if the object were presented to him, he would certainly fall into the commission of a foul sin; but then the object is not there, or there is no opportunity of committing the sin. At another time, when we are called to go through a burning fiery furnace of temptation, we have no desire towards the peculiar sin, in fact, we feel an aversion to it, or are even incapable of it. Strange it is, but many a man's character has been saved by providence. The best man that ever lived, little knows how much he owes for preservation to the providence as well as to the grace of God.

### 3. God's Providential Happening Often Puts Man Where God Wants Him

How marvelously, too, has providence arranged all our places. I can not but recur to my own personal history, for, after all, we are obliged to speak more of what we know of ourselves as matters of fact, than of others. I shall always regard the fact of my being here today as a remarkable instance of providence. I should not have occupied this hall probably, and been blessed of God in preaching to multitudes if it had not been for what I considered an untoward accident. I should have been at this time studying in college, instead of preaching here, but for a singular circumstance which happened.

I had agreed to go to college; the tutor had come to see me, and I went to see him at the house of a mutual friend; I was shown by the servant into one drawing-room in the house, he was shown into another. He sat and waited for me for two hours; I sat and waited for him two hours. He could wait no longer, and went away thinking I had not treated him well; I went away and thought that he had not treated me well. As I went away this text came into my mind, "Seekest thou great things for thyself? Seek them not." So I wrote to say that I must positively decline. I was happy enough amongst my own country people, and got on very well in preaching, and I did not care to go to college.

I have now had four years of labor. But, speaking after the manner of men, those who have been saved during that time would not have been saved, by my instrumentality at any rate, if it had not been for the remarkable providence turning the whole tenor of my thoughts, and putting things into a new track. You have often had strange accidents like that. When you have resolved to do a thing, you could not do it any how; it was quite impossible. God turned you another way, and proved that providence is indeed the master of all human events.

### 4. God Provides Daily Bread For His Own

And how good, too, has God been in providence to some of you, in providing your daily bread. It is remarkable how a little poverty makes a person believe in providence, especially if he is helped through it. If a person has to live from hand to mouth, when day by day the manna falls, he begins to think there is a providence then. The gentleman who sows his broad acres, reaps his wheat and puts it into his barn, or takes his regular income, gets on so nicely that he can do without providence; he does not care a bit about it. The rents of his houses all come in, and his money in the Three per Cents, is quite safe—what does he want with providence? But the poor man who has to work at day labor, and sometimes runs very short, and just then happens to meet with somebody who gives him precisely what he wants, he exclaims, "Well, I know there is a providence—I cannot help believing it; these things could not have come by chance."

### III. God's Constant Care Should Make Us Happy, Peaceful, Content

And now, in conclusion, brethren

and sisters, if these things be so, if the hairs of our head are all numbered, and if providence provides for His people all things necessary for this life, and godliness, and arranges every thing with infinite and unerring wisdom, what manner of persons ought we to be?

### 1. God's Care Should Make Us Bold

In the first place, we ought to be a bold race of people. What have we to fear? Another man looks up and if he sees a lightning flash, he trembles at its mysterious power. We believe it has its predestined path. We may stand and contemplate it; although we would not presumptuously expose ourselves to it, yet can we confide in our God in the midst of the storm. We are out at sea, the waves are dashing against the ship, she reels to and fro; other men shake, because they think this is all chance; we, however, see an order in the waves, and hear a music in the winds. It is for us to be peaceful and calm.

To other men the tempest is a fearful thing; we believe that the tempest is in the hand of God. Why should we shake? Why should we quiver? In all convulsions of the world, in all temporal distress and danger, it is for us to stand calm and collected, looking boldly on.

Our confidence should be very much the same, in comparison with the man who is not a believer in providence, as the confidence of some learned surgeon, who, when he is going through an operation, sees something very marvelous, but yet never shudders at it, while the ignorant peasant who has never seen anything so wonderful, is alarmed and fearful, and even thinks that evil spirits are at work. We are to say—let others say what they please—"I know God is here, and I am His child, and this is all working for my good; therefore will not I fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea."

Especially may I address this remark to timid people. There are some of you who are frightened at every little thing. Oh! if you could but believe that God manages all, why, you would not be screaming because your husband is not home when there is a little thunder and lightning, or because there is a mouse in the parlor, or because there is a great tree blown down in the garden. There is no necessity you should believe that your brother-in-law,

(Continued on page 10)

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## Unconverted Because You Will Not Come?

(Continued from page 1)

1884. One Monday evening was reserved for an address to atheists, skeptics and freethinkers. Atheists clubs, led by Charles Bradlaugh, accepted the challenge and came five thousand strong to fill all the building except room reserved for ministers and workers. The late George Soltau tells of that wonderful service in these words:

"The service commenced earlier than usual. After the preliminary singing, Mr. Moody asked the men to choose their favorite hymns, which suggestion raised many a laugh, for atheists have no song or hymn. The meeting got well under way. Mr. Moody spoke from 'For their rock is not as our Rock, even our enemies themselves being judges.' He poured in a broadside of telling, touching incidents from his own experience of the deathbeds of Christians and atheists, and let the men be the judges as to who had the best foundation on which to rest faith and hope. Reluctant tears were wrung from many an eye. The great mass of men, with the darkest, most determined defiance of God stamped upon their countenances, faced this running fire attacking them in their most vulnerable points, namely, their hearts and their homes; but when the sermon was ended one felt inclined to think nothing had been accomplished for it had not appealed to their intellects, or their reasoning faculties had convinced them of nothing.

"At the close Mr. Moody said, 'We will rise and sing, "Only Trust Him," and while we do so, will the ushers open all the doors so that any man who wants to leave can do so; and after that we will have the usual inquiry meeting for those who desire to be led to the Saviour.' I thought, 'All will stampede and we shall only have an empty hall.' But instead, the great mass of five thousand men rose, sang, and sat down again—not one man vacating his seat.

### "I Can't," "I Won't!"

"What next? Mr. Moody then said, 'I will explain four words: receive, believe, trust, take HIM.' A broad grin pervaded all that sea of faces. After a few words upon 'receive,' he made the appeal, 'Who will receive Him? Just say, "I will." From the men standing round the edge of the hall came some fifty responses, but not one from the mass seated before him. One man growled, 'I can't,' to which Mr. Moody replied, 'You

have spoken the truth, my man; glad you spoke. Listen, and you will be able to say "I can" before we are through.' Then he explained the word 'believe' and made his second appeal, 'Who will say, "I will believe Him?"' Again some responded from the fringe of the crowd, till one big fellow, a leading club man, shouted, 'I won't.' Dear Mr. Moody, overcome with tenderness and compassion, burst into broken, tearful words, half sobs, 'It is "I will," or "I won't" for every man in this hall tonight.'

### "The Atheists Confounded"

"Then he suddenly turned the whole attention of the meeting to the story of the Prodigal Son, saying, 'The battle is in the will, and only there. When the young man said, "I will arise," the battle was won, for he had yielded his will; and on that point all hangs tonight. Men, you have your champion there in the middle of the hall, the man who said, "I won't." I want every man here who believes that man is right to follow him, and to rise and say, "I won't." There was perfect silence and stillness; all held their breath, till as no man rose, Moody burst out, 'Thank God, no man says, "I won't." Now, who'll say, "I will"?'"

"In an instant the Holy Spirit seemed to have broken loose upon that great crowd of enemies of Jesus Christ, and five hundred men sprang to their feet, their faces raining down with tears, shouting, 'I will, I will,' till the whole atmosphere was changed and the battle was won. Quickly the meeting was closed that personal work might begin, and from that night till the end of the week nearly two thousand men were swung out from the ranks of the foe into the army of the Lord, by the surrender of their will. They heard His 'rise and walk,' and they followed Him. The permanency of that work was well attested for years afterward and the clubs never recovered their footing. God swept them away in His mercy and might by the gospel!" (From *The Sword Book of Treasures*.)

Dear sinner who reads this, do not deceive yourself. Your trouble is not in your head, that you cannot believe, but in your heart, that you will not!

This truth needs to be pondered well for it proves the depravity of the human heart. It proves that men are wicked sinners, alien from God, enemies of God by nature. If men were naturally good, then they would choose to come to Christ, choose to be forgiven, choose to be redeemed. Since they are wicked sinners by choice, they will not come to Jesus that they might have life. How wicked the human heart that will not take mercy when it is offered, will not accept the salvation purchased at such a price—the blood of God's own Son! Surely this is one of the saddest sayings in the Bible, "Ye will not come to me, that ye might have life."

Will you come to Him now, trusting Him to forgive and save you? Say to the Lord, "Jesus, I will come to you now!"

### Say "I Will!"

In a big tabernacle revival campaign in Tulsa, Oklahoma, years ago, I preached on "The Banquet Invitation, R. S. V. P." I read of the man who made a great supper and bade many and sent his servant to say to them that were bidden, "Come; for all things are now ready," but Jesus said, "They all with one consent began to make excuse." One said that he had bought a piece of ground and must needs go and see it. Another said he had bought five yoke of oxen and must prove them at supertime. A third said, "I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come."

I pressed the matter that Jesus Christ was inviting every poor

## Red Churchmen

(Continued from page 1)

ters than any other profession on the list of communist supporters in this country."

The major goal of the Communist Party in its program to conquer and enslave the world is to render America militarily weak and psychologically impotent, so that the nation will become demoralized when the demand for surrender is made by the Kremlin. In a fantastically successful way this goal is being achieved through scientifically manipulating other groups such as the National Council of Churches. The Party estimates that one sympathetic clergyman outside the Party has 250 times the influence that a card-carrying member has inside the Party.

### National Council and Communist Objectives the Same

Consider these identical NCC-CP objectives which cumulatively have a treasonable effect upon America, the last bastion of freedom:

1. Peaceful co-existence with the godless powers of communism.
2. Abolition of all congressional investigative committees on communism.
3. Total disarmament, leaving

lost sinner to come to the wedding supper in Heaven and enter into everlasting life now. I said, "Who will say now, 'Brother Rice, you may tell the Lord Jesus that I gladly accept His invitation. I will take Him as my Saviour and accept His forgiveness and let Him take me to Heaven. Brother Rice, tell Him that I will accept!' Who will say yes tonight to God's invitation and will say that by God's loving mercy, you accept Him as Saviour and will meet us in Heaven?"

On the front row was a young man who had just come back from the Navy. He was heartsick over all the wickedness he had seen. He was so hungry for the fellowship of nice, clean women and decent men. Now, the first night after he had gotten home from the Navy he had gone with his mother to church, had seated her back further and then come to sit on the front row. Now he suddenly leaped to his feet and cried out, "I will, Brother Rice! I will!" He accepted the Lord's invitation there and then!

And so you may accept His invitation, too. Jesus wants you. He died to pay for your sins. He has offered salvation. He said, "The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will let him take the water of life freely" (Rev. 22:17). You can be saved. You ought to be saved. Now will you be saved today? It depends on your choice. For Jesus promised, "Him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37).

If you will here and now take Christ as your own personal Saviour, I beg you, say yes honestly in your heart to Jesus Christ, then sign the decision form below, copy it in a letter and mail it to me today.

Evangelist John R. Rice  
SWORD OF THE LORD  
Box 420  
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

I have read your little sermon on "Unconverted Because You Will Not Come." I realize that I am a poor lost sinner. It is my own sinful heart that has kept me away from Jesus thus far, but I do not want to go to Hell because of my stubborn, wilful way. So here and now I confess to God that I am a sinner, that I need forgiveness. I want God to forgive my sins and save my soul. I believe that Jesus died for me and wants to save me. So here and now, once and forever, I trust Jesus Christ to forgive me. I now take Him as my own personal Saviour, and I write this letter to claim Him and let you know. Please write me a letter of counsel and encouragement now as I set out to live for Jesus.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Complete ban on all types of nuclear weapons testing.
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6. Outlawing all loyalty oaths at all levels of government.
7. Discrediting J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI as part of "police state."
8. Revision of Immigration and Passport laws protecting against Reds.
9. Recognition of Red China by U. S. and admission to the United Nations.
10. Complete forced integration and inter-marrying of the races.
11. Replacement of the present capitalist system with social revolution.
12. Increasing foreign aid to communist nations and satellite powers.
13. Clemency for convicted communist spies against America.
14. Abandonment of all military alliances in keeping the peace.
15. Destruction of Selective Service Act and all military draft laws.
16. Defeat of the Bricker Amendment outlawing secret treaties.
17. Repeal of the Connally Reservation protecting U. S. security.
18. Willing subjection to majority vote of U. N. over U. S. internal policy.
19. Scientific reconstruction of religion on basis of materialism.

These objectives, which are common to both the Communist Party and the National Council of Churches, are some of the reasons why the First Baptist Church of Wichita, Kansas, the largest of the American Baptist Convention, recently withdrew from the NCC; why the St. Mark's Church of Shreveport, the largest Episcopal Church in Louisiana, separated from the NCC; and why the First Baptist Church of San Francisco, the strategic first Baptist church of all California, repudiated the National Council of Churches. Judged by these common goals with the Communist Party, the National Council of Churches is considered by many as one of the most subversive forces in America today.

### What Is the Answer?

1. Immediate withholding of all funds which could go to the NCC.
2. Refusal to purchase the RSV Bible which provides a handsome royalty for the financial undergirding of NCC socialistic program.
3. Action to disassociate the denominational grouping from the NCC, otherwise withdrawal of the local church from the denomination.
4. Identification with a biblically-true, patriotically-loyal and theologically-sound church where the historic Christian faith is proclaimed.

Ezekiel 34:1-6; Jeremiah 23:16-18, 21-22, 25-32; Matthew 7:15-



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23; Acts 20:28-31; II Peter 2:1-3; II Corinthians 11:13-15; Jude 3, 4.

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# Searching the Scriptures for the Saviour

By Elizabeth Rice Handford

## Psalm 1, 2 and 3 Jesus the King Rejected and Exalted

The second Psalm is a remarkable prophecy concerning the coming of Christ, His rejection by the world, and His ultimate reign. The world hated Christ. It still does. People still "take counsel together, against the Lord [God], and against his anointed [Christ]." For a season it seemed Christ was defeated by His enemies, when on the cross He gave up His life. Yet all the time God was in control, laughing in anger at men who try to break His yoke. Someday He will establish Jesus as King, and He will reign from Jerusalem ("my holy hill") forever.

That this Psalm refers to Christ we have no doubt because God quoted it aloud in speaking of the Lord Jesus (Matt. 3:17).

"Kiss the Son," warns the Scripture, "lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way." Philippians 2:10 and 11 tells us "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, . . . and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord." Someday the whole world will bow. How wise it would be to bow now, in repentance, and final salvation, than to be made to bow in that day, and still perish! How blessed indeed are they who put their trust in Him, and find eternal life.

When you read the first Psalm, concerning the Word of God, and its effect in our lives, remember that the *written* Word, the Bible, is actually the *living* Word, Christ. John 1:1 says that the Word was God, and that He became flesh (vs. 14). In Hebrews 4:12 we learn that the Word of God is quick and powerful and sharper than any twoedged sword. Then the Scripture continues, "Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do." Here the Holy Spirit refers to them both as one.

- Clues Across**
- 1 "----- shalt dash them in pieces"
  - 5, 23 down "But thou, O Lord, ----- a ----- for me"
  - 7 "Yet have I set ----- king upon my holy hill"
  - 9 son of Jahdai (I Chron. 2:47)
  - 11 "For by ----- offering he hath perfected for ever them" Heb. 10
  - 13 "The ungodly are not -----"
  - 14 city from which God called Abraham (Gen. 11:31)
  - 15 "If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer -----" I Cor. 3
  - 18 head covering
  - 19 "Kiss the -----, lest he be angry"
  - 20, 21 "Thou art my Son; ----- have I begotten thee"
  - 22 "----- his wrath is kindled but a little"
  - 23 "----- come down ere my child die" John 4
  - 25 "----- that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh"
  - 26 "he ----- me out of his holy hill"
  - 28 "Give ear ----- my words, O Lord" Ps. 5
  - 29 "The Lord shall ----- them in derision"
  - 32 "There is ----- help for him in God"
  - 33 "Thou shalt break them with a ----- of iron"
  - 34 "Canst thou fill his skin with ----- irons?" Job 41
  - 35 a city on border of Moab (Num. 21:15)
  - 37 "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel ----- the ungodly"
  - 38 bronze French coins
  - 39 oldest son of Caleb (I Chron. 4:15)

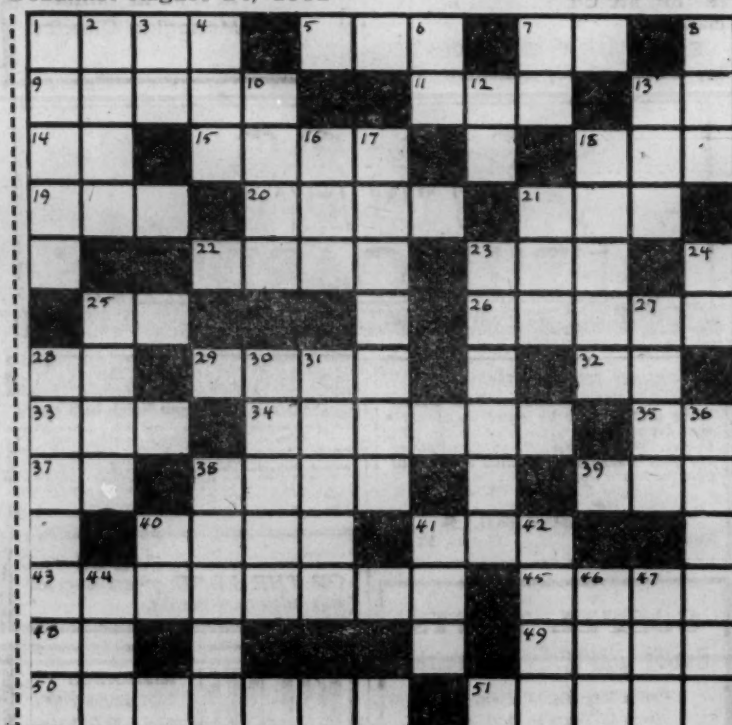
- 40 to daze
- 41 poem (----- e)
- 43 "Unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I ----- thee?" Heb. 1
- 45 "Ask of me, and I shall give ----- the heathen"
- 48 "and -----, I am with you always" Matt. 28
- 49 "for that thy name is ----- thy wondrous works declare" Ps. 75
- 50 "thou hast smitten all mine ----- upon the cheek"
- 51 "the uttermost ----- of the earth for thy possession"

### Clues Down

- 1 "Blessed are all they that put their ----- in him"
- 2 a brave man
- 3 king of Bashan (Num. 21:33)
- 4 son of Bani (Ezra 10:34)
- 6 "Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come ----- an end" Ps. 7
- 7 "the Lord sustained -----"
- 8 "I will ----- be afraid of ten thousands of people"
- 10 "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where -----" Matt. 6
- 12 "There is ----- help for him in God"
- 13 "Many there be which ----- of my soul"
- 16 "if ----- have diligently followed every good work" I Tim. 5
- 17 "nor standeth in the way of -----"
- 18 city where Abram stopped in his way to Canaan (Gen. 11:31)
- 21 "the soul that sinneth, it shall -----" Ezek. 18
- 23 see 5 across
- 24 an altar (Josh. 22:34)

Deadline: August 14, 1961

Puzzle No. 31



Mail to: Puzzle Editor, SWORD OF THE LORD, Wheaton, Illinois  
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Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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(Cut along dotted lines)

- 25 "there shall not an ----- be left behind" (Exod. 10:26)
- 27 "Though the waters thereof ----- and be troubled" Ps. 46
- 28 "Lord, how are they increased that ----- me"
- 30 "that have set themselves against me round -----"
- 31 "lest Israel ----- themselves against me" Judg. 7
- 36 "the ----- take counsel together, against the Lord"
- 38 "He maketh the ----- a calm" Ps. 107
- 40 initials of two towns God destroyed by fire (Gen. 19:24)
- 41 "For there is ----- God, and one mediator" I Tim. 2
- 42 famous volcano in Sicily
- 44 long period of time
- 46 "The heart of ----- husband doth safely trust in -----" Prov. 31
- 47 "So they did -----, and were well filled" Ps. 78

**Free**

for correct,  
prompt answers to  
**Puzzle Number 31**



### TOGETHER FOREVER

by Waldo Richardson

It is a sad, sickening commentary on "Christian" America and the caliber of her churches that this message is needed, but needed it is—*desperately!* The major problem of divorce—coupled with the equally tragic problem of "Hell in the Home" on the brink of a disaster that somehow never materializes—is enough to make the angels weep!

The author of this booklet recognizes that the main problem is not why things are wrong, but what to do about them. This message has the answer in the form of "good news" in Jesus Christ.

Get it for yourself, for newlyweds and for those already having "trouble" sailing the matrimonial sea!

### THE RULES

1. Fill in blanks according to clues given. Answer must be complete and correct. We use the Scofield Reference Bible in making up the clues.

2. PRINT name and address in blank below puzzle. This coupon serves as your address label for envelope containing your prize. If you print your answers on a separate sheet in order to not cut your Sword, put them in the same form as the puzzle rather than in columns. Entries will not be returned.

3. If paper arrives after deadline, place date of arrival on puzzle entry. Answer to Puzzle Number 31 will appear in August 25 issue.

4. Each person having a correct entry will receive a coupon along with the weekly prize. Save these coupons! End of the year prizes are: World Bible with concordance, or Rainbow edition of the Bible for young readers (King James Version) for 48 coupons; a compact and easy to handle World Bible (King James Version) for 40 coupons; *Illustrated Bible Geography and Atlas* for 25 coupons. Remember, your coupons are the

### Answer to Puzzle No. 28

OUR GOD HATH  
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NOT FORSAKEN  
E V E N I T N I N  
E O H A E S O  
P R Y L O J E E Z E R  
L F A T H E R S  
U S I N O U R A R A  
C H I L D R E N O M E R  
K E L E S E K A D O  
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only record of your correct entries. It will be your responsibility to keep the coupons. Duplicate coupons will not count as two separate coupons. ALWAYS INCLUDE YOUR COMPLETE ADDRESS ON PUZZLE, NOTE OR OTHER CORRESPONDENCE.

## Hairs Counted

(Continued from page 8)

who has gone to Australia, was wrecked because there was a storm when he was at sea. There is no need for you to imagine that your son in the army was necessarily killed because he happened to be before Lucknow; or, if you think the thing necessary, still, as a believer in God's providence, you should just stand and say that God has done it, and it is yours to resign all things into His hands.

### 2. God Does All Things Well So We Trust Him in Bereavement

And I may say to those of you also who have been bereaved—if you believe in providence you may grieve; but your grief must not be excessive. I remember at a funeral of a friend hearing a pretty parable which I have told before and will tell again. There was much weeping on account of the loss of a loved one, and the minister put it thus. He said, "Suppose you are a gardener employed by another; it is not your garden, but you are called upon to tend it, and you have your wages paid you. You have taken great care with a certain number of roses; you have trained them up, and there they are, blooming in their beauty. You pride yourself upon them. You come one morning into the garden, and you find that the best rose has been taken away. You are angry; you go to your fellow-servants, and charge them with having taken the rose. They will declare that they had nothing at all to do with it; and one says, 'I saw the master walking here this morning; I think he took it.' Is the gardener angry then? No, at once he says, 'I am happy that my rose should have been so fair as to attract the attention of the masters. It is his own; he hath taken it; let him do what seemeth him good.'"

It is even so with your friends. They wither not by chance; the grave is not filled by accident; men die according to God's will. Your child is gone, but the Master took it; your husband is gone, your wife is buried—the Master took them; thank Him that He let you have the pleasure of caring for them and tending them while they were here, and thank Him that as He gave, He Himself has taken away. If others had done it, you would have had cause to be angry; but the Lord has done it. Can you, then, murmur? Will you not say—

"Thee at all times will I bless;  
Having thee I all possess;  
How can I bereaved be,  
Since I cannot part with thee?"

### 3. Always Peaceful, Because Sure of God's Providential Care!

And pardon me when I say, finally, that I think this doctrine, if fully believed, ought to keep us always in an equable frame of mind. One of the things we most want is to have our equilibrium always kept up. Sometimes we are elated. If I ever find myself elated I know what is coming. I know that I shall be depressed in a very few hours. If the balance goes too much up it is sure to come down again. The happiest state of mind is to be always on the equilibrium. If good things come, thank God for them; but do not set your heart upon them. If good things go, thank God that He has taken them Himself, and still bless His name. Bear all. He who feels that every thing cometh to pass according to God's will, hath a great mainstay to his soul. He need not be shaken to and fro by every wind that bloweth; for he is fast bound, so that he need not move. This is an anchor cast into the sea. While the other ships are drifting far away, he can ride calmly through.

Strive, dear friends, to believe this, and maintain as the consequence of it that continual calm and peace which render life so

happy. Do not get fearing ills that may come tomorrow; either they will not come, or else they will bring good with them. If you have evils today, do not multiply them by fearing those of tomorrow. "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

Oh, I would to God that some of you who are full of carking care and anxiety, could be delivered from it by a belief in providence; and when you once get into that quiet frame, which this doctrine engenders, you will be prepared for those higher exercises of communion and fellowship with Christ, to which distracting care is ever a fearful detriment, if not an entire preventive.

But as for you who fear not God, remember, the stones of the field are in league against you; the heavens cry to the earth and the earth answereth to the heavens, for vengeance upon you on account of your sins. For you there is nothing good, everything is in rebellion against you. Oh that God might bring you into peace with Him, and then you would be at rest with all beside. "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you." The Lord bless you in this, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

—The End—

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## Minding Own Business

(Continued from page 1)

joined together any more than midnight could be joined to mid-day. The marriage vow is being kicked around like a dirty football.

It is bad enough for those in the pew to do it, but when it enters the ministry and the organization of the deacons, we need to return to the simple Scripture that says the deacon and the bishop should be "the husband of one wife." In the last ten years, we have seen a scourge of broken homes and remarriage in the ministry. If God does not put His blessing upon the home, it will not help a great deal for the preacher to put his upon it.

And second, there is a notion that the main business of the preacher is to visit the sick and bury the dead. As important as that may be, that is not the preacher's main business. Jesus said, "Let the dead bury their dead; but go thou and preach the kingdom of God" (Luke 9:60).

Third, a popular notion among the people is that the preacher must be a promoter. Fact is, most of the training that he gets points him in that direction. The preacher's work has become a very complex work. He must be a financier, an organizer, a promoter, a mixer, and a lot of other things that are only distantly related to his main calling.

The fourth false notion is that the preacher, if he is to be a success, must be a denominational servant. In one of our big denominational papers the statement was published the other day that no preacher can succeed unless he becomes a denominational servant. I do not believe that the Holy Spirit is going to share His honors with the flesh.

One of the greatest needs of this hour is a return to the sovereignty of the local church and the importance of the local pulpit with complete freedom and liberty for the man of God to stand on the house top and speak God's eternal truth. But sad to say, the average preacher and pastor is busy with his oil can squirting oil on dead machinery. And I believe more than anything else this explains the failure and fall of many preachers because their resistance runs down and sin sets in and they are helpless before the onslaughts of Satan. They lose their freshness and their zeal and thrill of preaching and become weary with the mechanics of the ministry.

The preacher has become a nervous, miserable, and unhappy man. We need to remember that, "In quietness and in confidence shall be your strength" (Isa. 30:15), and, "The joy of the Lord is your strength" (Neh. 8:10). Jesus said, "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life" (John 6:63). "It is not reason," said the preachers of old, "that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables" (Acts 6:2).

The fifth false notion that is

abroad in the land is that the preacher is to save the nation and the world, and therefore many are dissipating their energies trying to save America, but the Bible says, "I will make a full end of all the nations whither I have driven thee: but I will not make a full end of thee" (Jer. 30:11). It is not our business to save nations; it is our business to save souls. I will admit that it sounds more glamorous and a lot bigger to make a running attempt to save society or our nation from communism or the abomination of some denomination or false religion.

Why don't we look at Jesus and see what He did? He walked into Samaria and sat on the well curb and waited until a woman came, and said, "If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water" (John 4:10). And in a little while, she left her empty bucket and carried away the well. Yes, she went away singing and she came back bringing others to the water that was not from the well.

What do you suppose Jesus was doing at the midnight hour and possibly into the morning hours sitting and talking with one man about the new birth or another instance of dealing with a fallen woman, saying to her, "Go, and sin no more"? Jesus stopped dying long enough to make a man live who was hanging next door to Him on a Roman cross. Paul lifted the hinges off the Roman Empire by preaching the Gospel and setting up New Testament churches that had a blood-red interest in evangelism. Paul was not interested in saving a world, but in saving some.

The sixth notion that is false is that the pastor is to build a church and to pack the pew, but Jesus said, "Upon this rock I will build my church" (Matt. 16:18). Jesus is the One who will build the church and very plainly the pastor is commanded to fill the pulpit, not the pew. I have heard this statement until I am nauseated with it—"Let's get a preacher or an evangelist that will be a good drawing card." Brother, a preacher is a lot more than a card and a preacher's greatness may not always be properly evaluated by the crowd that hears him. God told Isaiah to tell the people that all flesh is grass.

Now I am not one of these preachers that would just as soon preach to five as five thousand. It was the multitude that moved Jesus and brought about compassion and I long to see the crowds, but by the grace of God, I am determined not to compromise in order to get the crowd.

Back in the seminary, many years ago, a young man made the statement in Dr. Conner's doctrine class, "I am going to get the crowd if I have to stand on my head to get them," to which old Dr. Conner said, "My advice to you, son, would be to keep the light end up."

The seventh false notion concerning the preacher's business is that he is to be a good mixer and yet, nowhere in the Bible can you justify such a notion. "The word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Heb. 4:12). Jeremiah said, "Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart." In the next verse he said, "I sat alone." Paul said, "The more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved." "Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?" The old prophet, Amos, said, "They hate him that rebuketh in the gate." Abraham had to get separated. So did Noah.

Moses lived a lonely life of forty years as he took his post-graduate course in the wilderness before he could lead millions of Israelites to the land flowing with milk and honey. Elijah missed every convention for three and a half years while he walked alone with God at the brook, but where is the preacher who would not like to have a double portion of his spirit who could call down fire from Heaven and pray down

rain to break a drought?

I am amazed, shocked and disappointed that some of our lifelong friends have forsaken their convictions, turned their back on the Bible, and have joined the clubs and secret orders in order, they say, "to reach the people." My conviction is that they are gently drifting down the stream of failure.

I heard about a deacon who asked the new pastor to join the lodges and the clubs with him, to which the preacher said, "No, I cannot afford to do it." The deacon said, "It would be a way to win these men." The preacher with conviction refused. A few days later, the deacon was in the ditch along side the road, when the pastor drove up in his car. He asked the pastor if he would pull him out and the pastor said, "Yes, I will back down in there with you." To which the deacon said, "No, keep your wheels on the concrete!" And then the preacher with a smile said, "You asked me to join the clubs and lodges with you—that is exactly what I would be doing—backing down in the ditch to pull them out."

### Seven Results of Modern False Aims of the Ministry

Now, let us look at seven results of such a ministry. In the first place, notice the churches—the average preacher will admit that there is a spiritual deadness in his church. The pews are half empty and yet there is not enough humility to declare bankruptcy and fall upon the mercies of God and plead for Bible revival. The Sunday night evangelistic service is just a shadow of what it used to be. The first sermon Jesus ever preached and the last sermon was repentance. He said to the seven churches, "Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent" (Rev. 2:5). They refused to repent and were blotted out. The average church is busy cutting corners, shortening services, turning out for various entertainments. Churches with thousands of members, baptizing less than a hundred people in a year, is a sad sign that the tide is low.

Where is the blessedness I knew when first I saw the Lord?

Where is the soul refreshing view of Jesus and His Word?

In the second place, the homes have been destroyed. Three out of five marriages end up in divorce. Juvenile delinquency is a scourge in this land. About seven million alcoholics slobber and stagger their way to a drunkard's grave. Drug addicts can be counted in hundreds of thousands. For years we have operated the City of Refuge for alcoholics, which is completely a work of faith, and every day we read letters and listen to destitute cries from alcoholics across the nation. While we were at the City of Refuge yesterday, two new alcoholics came in. We have received fourteen alcoholics from one rather small city in a distant state. The social gospel and modernism will not save to the uttermost!

The average home has its dirty magazines, its daily newspapers, and its alcoholic beverages, and last but not least, Hell's monster, the Frankenstein of this generation with its harlots from Hollywood belching forth their filth and immoral standards—television. There was a time when the home was clean and people had convictions about when to go to bed at night. The family would sit together and talk or gather around an old piano and sing, but not so any more.

In many homes I have noticed lately there is a double-barreled television set-up, one sitting right on top of the other in the living room. Sure, I've heard the cry—"Television is here to stay and you are against progress," but I'd like to remind you that the Bible hasn't changed, nor the three keys on the Devil's key string—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life. Eve fell when she saw. Achan fell when he saw. David fell when he saw. The sons of God fell for wicked women when they saw. David gave the right answer when he said, "I will set no wicked thing before

mine eyes." Paul had it straight when he said, "Abstain from all appearance of evil." And again, "Let not then your good be evil spoken of."

We are on the battle front and soldiers don't watch television sets at the battle front. Don't fuss at me—I'm just preaching what I preached twenty-eight years ago. I know your cry is, "Control it"—that is the same cry of the liquor crowd. Why control a rattlesnake in your living room? Why don't you kill it? As a preacher of righteousness, I am on the same side of the world's authority on crime. Go ask Mr. J. Edgar Hoover what is wrong with our young people today and he will say again, like he said before a great assembly to the parents, "Go look in your living room. Your carpet is soaked every day and night with the blood of criminals and murderers."

The third result is, our schools are diseased with infidelity and sin. The old-fashioned Bible truths have been laughed out of the school room and we're sacrificing our young people on the altars of so-called higher learning and scholasticism.

The fourth result is that our denominations are busy building the tombs of the prophets and garnishing the sepulchres of the righteous instead of filling graves with new martyrs. We are busy visiting old battlefields and viewing relics of the past, talking about our great heritage, instead of making new beachheads for Jesus and launching an all-out campaign for back-to-the-Bible evangelism.

The fifth result is that there is no real voice for righteousness. We have become satisfied with our successful evangelistic campaigns with so many additions when the real complexion of the community remains unchanged. The old-fashioned evangelists would close up theaters for six years because of the lack of customers after the revival was over.

The sixth result is, there is no fear of God like there ought to be and like there was when Ananias and Sapphira lied to the Holy Ghost; when Achan lusted and lied and died; when Miriam criticized and was stricken with leprosy; when God dropped an army of rebels in a hole in the ground.

The seventh result is, rotten religion and communism are in a mad race to dominate the world while the hands of the sleeping

church hang helplessly down. We used to hear messages preached on "The Church Militant," but now it would have to be "The Church Tranquil."

### What Is the Preacher's Business?

In the last division of this message, I would like to lay out my business as a preacher—"Minding my own business!"

First, the Word of God is my main business. If Satan could get me away from the Bible, I would have no message. Paul said, "Preach the word." The early preachers said, "It is not reason that we should leave the word of God." Paul said that we are to rightly divide the Word of God. The psalmist said, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee." "The entrance of Thy word giveth light." "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." They could find nothing wrong with Daniel save his relationship to the law of his God.

Jesus said, "Now ye are clean through the Word which I have spoken unto you." "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." Modernism is not a cause, but a result of the lack of the Word of God, since faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. The preacher must be a man of one Book. Great old John Wesley said, "If I feel my power waning, I go on a Bible and prayer diet for days until I feel the Spirit of God moving in my soul again." The preacher is minding his own business when he is on his knees before an open

(Continued on next page)

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Second, my business is to pray. "Men ought always to pray, and not to faint." The disciples in the presence of the Prince of preachers, the Lord Jesus, said, "Lord, teach us to pray." Daniel's prayer life locked the lions' jaws. Hezekiah's prayer life pushed back the undertaker fifteen years. The Hebrew children prayed till fire could not burn them. Elijah repaired the altar and prayed until fire fell and religion was rebuked and the drought was broken. The church prayed until Heaven unlocked earth's jail-house and turned their pastor out. Paul and Silas prayed till their souls got happy and they sang at midnight and the earthquake of deliverance came.

Third, it is my main business to preach. Titus 1:3, "But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching." First Corinthians 1:21, "It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." Churches are made great by great preaching—simple preaching that names sin and also names Christ as the answer. Jesus was a preacher. John was a preacher. Paul was a preacher. Revival is a result of great preaching. "Philip . . . began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus." Paul said, "I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus." "There is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

It is my business to be filled with the Spirit, thrilled with the message, and let the sinners be drilled with Gospel bullets. Films, plays, and programs are all miserable substitutes for the preaching of the Word of God. The preacher must occupy and reign on every inch of the pulpit platform if he is to see souls saved and a great church built up in the faith.

In the fourth place, my business is to build a Christian home. There must be a family altar. The members of the family must practice what we preach or suffer the consequences.

In the fifth place, it is my business to witness and to be a personal soul winner. When we get too busy to do personal soul winning, we are too busy to preach on that great subject and we become ineffective in our ministries when we lose our personal touch with precious souls. For seventeen years we have had a jail ministry, and for many years we have operated the Good Samaritan Rescue Mission where nothing but the blood of Christ will go deeper than the stain of sin has gone.

In the sixth place, it is my business to co-operate with every other Christian on the basis of the Book, the blood, and the blessed hope. I've said a lot of times, If a mangy dog came to Corpus Christi preaching the Gospel and getting people saved, I would feel obligated to cure his mange and give him some feed. But when I say that, I do not endorse modernistic sponsorship. There is something wrong with a man's message when the modernist wants to sponsor it. The right kind of love, and certainly the leadership of the Spirit, will do away with jealousy and envy and criticism that separates God's people.

The seventh thing that certainly is my business is to keep myself unentangled. My life must be lived in subjection to Jesus and His Word and my ministry must be channeled through a Bible church. My evangelistic efforts, as well as the nation-wide broadcast, must be aimed at encouraging the preacher and strengthening the church that believes and practices the Word of God. I cannot join hands with clubs and lodges and worldly movements that would grieve away the Dove of the Spirit and take away my spiritual discernment.

#### Bible Characters Who Minded Their Business

In conclusion, let us look at some men who were busy minding their own business. Abraham is packed to travel and is moving from Ur of the Chaldees with a deep-seated satisfaction that he was right in looking for a city not made with hands, eternal in the

heavens. Of course, he was misunderstood by his neighbors and friends, but he was minding his own business. God had given him the moving order. "Abraham, believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness." Now he is called the friend of God and the father of the faithful and when a lost man fell into Hell, he looked up and saw Lazarus in Abraham's bosom and cried, "Father Abraham."

Old righteous Noah for a hundred and twenty years hauled logs and hammered out the Gospel to his pleasure-loving generation, branded, no doubt, the number one fool of his day, building an ark over a hundred miles away from the closest water it would take to float it, preaching, "The flood is coming," when there had never been a clap of thunder or a streak of lightning or a drop of rain to fall on the earth, yet he was minding his own business. But I would remind you that in just thirty days after he entered the ark and God closed the door, he and his little family were in the majority and they floated in perfect safety while the world perished in style. He minded his own business and got his whole family in the ark.

Moses refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing the affliction of the people of God and gave up the palace for a forty-year sentence in the wilderness with goats and sheep and got his degree at the Burning Bush Seminary, stepped into the inner office of Pharaoh and said, "Let my people go that they

might serve God." And in a little while, he was crossing the Red Sea dry shod because he dared to mind his own business.

Nathan stuck his index finger, like a single-barreled shotgun, into the face of a wicked king called David and said, "Thou art the man." David wept and repented and wrote half of the song book and the prayer book of the Bible because there was a preacher who had enough courage to mind his own business.

Elijah walked in upon old wicked Ahab in Naboth's vineyard and sentenced him to doom by telling him that the dogs would lick his blood in the streets of Jezreel, and a pack of hounds would eat his wife's body. That may not have got him in the "Who's Who" of Ahab, but at least he was minding his own business.

Amos climbed down out of a sycamore tree and started a city-wide revival, and Amaziah, who must have been president of the National Council of Churches or either the ministerial alliance, came and said, "Son, you are out of your territory," and Amos read the riot act to him. Amos was minding his own business.

Daniel appeared before King Belshazzar and announced that there was not enough merit in his soul to balance the scales of God—"Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting." God give us preachers who will mind their own business.

John stepped into the presence of an adulterous king and said, "It is not lawful for you to have her." It cost him his head, but he

died minding his own business.

Peter and John were told not to preach in the name of Jesus, but they said, "We ought to obey God rather than men," and they continued to mind their own business.

Paul was called a pestilent fellow and mover of sedition and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes when he determined not to know anything among them save Jesus Christ and Him crucified. But thank God, he was able to say at the end of life's trail, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness."

#### Jesus Minded His Business

Now let us look away from the shadows for just a moment and behold the Son. Jesus stepped across all lines and sat on the well curb and pleaded for a fallen woman to give her heart to Him. The disciples did not ask Him why, because they knew He was minding His own business. Jesus identified Himself with the crying need of a fallen woman in the eighth chapter of John and rebuked the stone-throwers and wrote love letters in the sand to this precious soul and then in a moment said, "Go, and sin no more." Jesus ate with the publicans and sinners and became a walking rescue mission and City of Refuge because He dared to mind His own business.

In politics, He was branded unpatriotic; in society, a misfit; in finances, bankrupt; and in religion, a trouble-maker. In Gethsemane,

while the church blundered, He bled. In Pilate's judgment hall, without a lawyer, the Divine Advocate of every soul pled His own case without opening His mouth. There wasn't a soul that had been healed or helped or blessed that stood to say, "Your Honor, this man opened my blind eyes, healed my sick body, straightened out my crooked limbs, unstopped my ears, or raised my dead body." Jesus was minding His own business according to Isaiah 53, "He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth." Under the load of that Roman cross, He trudged up Calvary's hill. While He hung suspended between Heaven and earth, despised by earth and locked out of Heaven, He still prayed, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do," and in a moment, a bleeding, dying thief said, "Remember me," and Jesus said, "To day shalt thou be with me in paradise." He died minding His own business. No wonder we sing today,

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine,  
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign;  
My gracious Redeemer, my Saviour art Thou;  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Sinner friend, will you receive Him today as your Saviour? "As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12). And Christian friend, it is our main business to so live that we may win others to Christ.

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